

# Curriculum

## **Early years learning framework**

In the early years, we understand that play provides opportunities for children to learn as they discover, create, improvise and imagine. Our Early Years teachers plan active and complex play opportunities to support the achievement of learning outcomes described in the Early Years Framework.

## **Australian curriculum**

Taroona Primary School is fully engaged with the Australian Curriculum. Our teachers are committed to using best practice, whole of school approaches in the teaching of Australian Curriculum English, Mathematics, Science and Humanities and Social Sciences. Dedicated time is allocated to these learning areas, Prep to Year 6.

Taroona Primary School also offers specialist programs including Music, French and Health and Physical Education.

More information about the Australian Curriculum can be found at the following website: <http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/>

## **Additional programs**

Across the school year a wide range of additional programs support our class programs. Opportunities are offered for students in the following areas:

- Carnivals (inter-house and inter-school) - Athletics, Cross Country, Swimming & Triathlon
- Whole School Special Days (e.g. events organised by our Student Council);
- School and Community Activities (e.g. Open Days, Exhibitions);
- School Association 'Seaside Festival' and other special events.
- Tournament of Minds
- Maths Relay and Maths Olympiad

- Grade 5-6 Debating
- Grade 1-6 Swimming & Water Safety Program
- Book Week
- Soccer for Kinder-6 (Saturdays)
- Grade 5 & 6 Interschool Netball & Football Roster (during school time Term 3)
- Class teacher and school-initiated activities (e.g. excursions)
- Scientists in Schools Program
- Concert Band 'Mentor Program' with Tarooma High School

Class programs are also complemented by visits to the school by cultural groups, performers or individuals and people with special expertise. Details of all special events are provided in newsletters.

## **Daily fitness**

The Tarooma Primary Daily Fitness program operates every day from 8.55am to 9.10am and is led by specially trained Year 6 students. The benefits of this program are well beyond the physical. The Tarooma Primary School Daily Fitness program has engendered a tradition of leadership, co-operation and organisation amongst the Year six leaders that the other students respect. It has grown familiarisation, friendships, respect and acceptance between children from all grades and ages through the daily interaction that happens through the vertical grouping process. We believe that the culture of 'working together' that this program fosters is largely responsible for the minimal behavioural problems we experience at our school.

## **Swimming and water safety**

This program operates for grades 1-6 students. The program for Years 3-5 will run for two weeks i.e. 10 days in term 3, and for Years 1, 2 & 6 for one week i.e. 5 days in term 3 or 4. The cost of this program is incorporated into the school levies.

## **Digital learning technologies**

Tarooma Primary School fully utilises available digital technologies to enhance student learning and engagement. All students and teachers at our school start

the school year with their own personal device. Our teachers employ contemporary, research-based learning design skills within their classroom programs to assist with engaging our students, as well as provide them with the tools they need to learn 'anywhere, anytime'.

Our school is digitally connected in all aspects of its operations and related learning platforms, by using effective classroom and online learning portals for students, teachers and parents.

Your child will be asked to agree to use digital technologies responsibly at school through the parent and/or student signing of an ICT User Agreement. Parents should be aware that the nature of the Internet means that full protection from inappropriate content cannot always be guaranteed.

## **The Internet**

We provide a filtered Internet service and teachers provide supervision and direction with activities where students will be using the Internet. As a part of all curriculum programs, teachers will reinforce the importance of safe and respectful use of digital technologies, including internet use.

## **Safety -Tablet Device Usage Guidelines**

Like the rest of society, schools are using an increasing variety of technologies to enhance outcomes. Like all workplaces Workplace Health and Safety is something our school takes seriously. Guidelines have been developed for the use of tablet devices in our classrooms and at home to ensure the early adoption of good habits.

Copies of the guidelines can be emailed to parents on request, or obtained through the school office. The Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner has some valuable resources to assist parents in this area. Go to <http://www.esafety.gov.au/iparent>

Office of the Children's Health Commissioner

## Keeping an eye on screen time

Did you know technology spent by a household grows up from \$100 in 2011 to \$1,000 in 2015? This growth rate has led to a 100% increase in screen time.

**What is screen time?**  
Screen time is the amount of time spent using electronic devices such as smartphones, tablets, and computers.

**What is the digital dividend of screen time?**  
It is the positive impact of screen time on learning, social skills, and cognitive development. It is also the time spent on educational and creative activities.

**What are the risks of screen time?**  
Excessive screen time can lead to obesity, sleep problems, and mental health issues.

**How can we reduce screen time?**  
Set limits on screen time, encourage physical activity, and use parental controls.

**What are the benefits of screen time?**  
Screen time can be used for learning, social interaction, and creative activities.

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