Assessment and Reporting Policy

Rationale

The process of assessment and reporting provides accurate, comprehensive and valuable information about student learning. A number of performance indicators are used to provide data for analysis and review. This is necessary in order to modify/review education progress to optimise all student learning and performance.

The Assessment and Reporting policy will:

- To improve student learning by accurately determining current performance as well as areas of future need and development and or additional assistance.
- To allow students to confirm what they have learned and find out where improvement may be needed.
- To provide a basis for program evaluation and continuing curriculum improvement.
- To regularly inform parents/carers about their child’s progress at school.
- To develop a sense of partnership in learning among parents/carers, teachers and students.

1. Guidelines

1.1 The school will provide a comprehensive and sequential curriculum based on AusVELS/National Curriculum. An integral part of this curriculum will be the provision of a planned approach to assessment.

1.2 The information gained from assessment will be used as a basis for program evaluation and continuous curriculum improvement and to assess school and student performance accurately and comprehensively against state-wide standards.

1.3 To further develop student’s learning outcomes, teachers will use assessment information by taking into account the full range of ability of students and by tailoring future educational programs to meet the needs of each student.

1.4 The school will report on student achievement to the students, parents, other teachers and schools where required, to School Council and DET annually. Reporting procedures will be established in line with DET policy and guidelines.

1.5 The assessment of a student will begin at enrolment and be ongoing with cumulative records of individual student achievement maintained.

2. Implementation

Assessment:

2.1 The school will base curriculum on the AusVELS/National Curriculum and teachers will accurately assess student achievement against progression points in each of the domains.

2.2 Assessment will include a mix of summative assessment of learning to determine and report what the student has learned, formative assessment to guide future learning for
each individual student, and ongoing assessment to focus teacher feedback alongside student self-assessment and reflection. Assessment is the ongoing process of gathering, analysing and reflecting on evidence to make informed and consistent judgments to improve future student learning. Assessment for improved student learning and deep understanding requires a range of assessment practices to be used with three overarching purposes:

- **Assessment for learning** – occurs when teachers use inferences about student progress to inform their teaching.
- **Assessment as learning** – occurs when students reflect on and monitor their progress to inform their teaching.
- **Assessment of learning** – occurs when teachers use evidence of student learning to make judgments on student achievement against goals and standards.

2.3 The school will establish a whole-school sequential and on-going assessment schedule for teachers, which include a variety of assessment strategies, including online and on demand assessment tools, providing multiple sources of information about student achievement. These may include tests and assignments, inquiry research, student portfolios, teacher observations, conferencing and involvement in state wide standardised testing processes such as NAPLAN (Years 3 and 5) and school entry assessment tests.

2.4 The school will use the summary statements provided by preschools to plan for the incoming students in the Foundation year.

2.5 The school will develop a sequential system of maintaining comprehensive student records containing assessment results and reports to be completed by teachers. This information will be passed on to the student’s next teacher/school.

2.6 Teachers will develop Individual Education Plans (IEP) for students operating well above or below expected AusVELS/National Curriculum levels including, PSD students and students living out of home, in consultation with colleagues, parents and where appropriate, the students.

2.7 The school will provide information for parents about AusVELS/National Curriculum, Student Reporting, NAPLAN and other external assessment.

2.8 The school will assess the achievements of students with disabilities in the context of the student’s personal goals, teaching and learning strategies and AusVELS/National Curriculum where possible. Program Support Groups will help develop Individual Education plans and report to these learning goals twice a year. (refer to PSD Policy)

2.9 Students for whom English is an additional language will have their progress in English reported against the EAL Companion to AusVELS/National Curriculum.

2.10 Levels will include agreed formal and informal teacher, peer and student self-assessments to monitor student achievement against AusVELS/National Curriculum standards.

2.11 Regular team reviewing, moderation and evaluation will occur in order that teachers apply consistent judgments of student progress and to meet the ongoing and changing needs of the students.

2.12 Teachers will participate in regular professional development sessions focusing on assessment and reporting to keep abreast of current development and trends.

2.13 Each year the school will provide students and parents with a Student Portfolio of work containing progressive work samples and assessment tasks collected from a variety of AusVELS/National Curriculum domains. These will also include samples of student self-assessment and reflection.

**Reporting:**

Comprehensive reporting will cover three major areas:
• Reporting to parents (student reports)
• Reporting to the local community (annual reports)
• Reporting systemic improvement (national reports)

2.14 Formal reporting to parents will consist of student reports on achievement that will be produced half yearly and end of school year. Academic results will relate to achievement levels set out in AusVELS/National Curriculum. The reports will indicate strengths and areas requiring additional assistance, support and extension strategies and also provide information on student social development, extra-curricular activities and attitude.

2.15 Student Reports should indicate what has been achieved by the student, stating strengths, and weaknesses including recommendations for future learning.

2.16 The school will conduct one formal introductory 2 Way Parent Teacher Partnership meeting early in term 1 to share information and discuss learning goals. Following the distribution of half yearly reports a 3 Way Parent Student Teacher will be conducted where student portfolios are shared, successes and new learning goals discussed. At the end of year student portfolios are sent home as a record of their year’s learning.

2.17 Parents/carers of students who have participated in NAPLAN will receive a written report from DET.

2.18 Informal reporting to parents will be provided through interviews (as needed or requested), diary comments and telephone conversations. Dialogue between parents will be encouraged at all times.

2.19 The school will provide all required performance data to DET and the community via the school’s annual report, which will include a School Performance Summary.

3. Evaluation

3.1 The Education Sub Committee and Weeden Heights staff will review the effectiveness of the school’s Assessment and Reporting Policy on a cyclical basis in accordance with DET guidelines.