

VISION FOR LEARNING AT HOLY CROSS COLLEGE

COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT

Holy Cross College is a Catholic School committed to:

- challenging each student to achieve their personal best in an environment which values the respect and dignity of each person
- celebrating a hope-filled Christian faith which grows from reflection and leads to justice and service
- encouraging each person to receive the gifts of God with gratitude, cultivate them responsibly and share them lovingly with others
- nurturing a caring compassionate and connected community
- developing visionary young people who embrace their changing world with confidence and optimism

Staff at Holy Cross College:

- encourage and facilitate students to become independent and interdependent lifelong learners
- integrate the teaching of Gospel Values and give students opportunities to take an active role in creating a just society
- facilitate a safe, supportive and challenging learning environment
- develop their knowledge of the family, culture and social context of students
- work from an understanding of students' beliefs, attitudes and orientation towards learning
- communicate high expectations of achievement to all students
- analyse data (anecdotal, statistical, prior learning etc) to inform the learning
- continually track the developmental stages of students and provide rich feedback about individual achievement
- focus on students rather than the teacher as centre of knowledge
- listen to the aspirations of students and engage them in choices about learning pathways
- provide opportunities for students to exercise some discretion over the selection of activities related to their learning and the means and manner by which these activities will be done
- provide opportunities for self-directed learning with students progressing at their own pace
- differentiate learning by adjusting the content, process/strategies and products to meet the learning needs and interests of students
- engage students in strategies connecting content and concepts across all areas of learning. This occurs in both Big Ideas and specific disciplines.
- scaffold learning experiences and provide opportunities for individual and small group support.
- plan experiences which give students opportunities to develop skills to become critical and creative thinkers and effective problem solvers
- provide timely and meaningful feedback to direct each student's learning
- engage students in reflective practices to determine challenging but achievable goals
- give students opportunities to develop 21st century learning skills
- make connections to the experiences and questions in the students' world and give students opportunities to demonstrate their responsibilities as local, national and global citizens
- use the whole school merit system and other positive reinforcement to encourage students to achieve their personal best.
- use ICT to enhance Learning opportunities and engage with new developments in ICT to enhance learning experiences
- explicitly teaching literacy skills and implement the Literacy Plan.

- develop and share resources within the school and in the wider learning community
- give students opportunities to become inter-dependent learners through structured collaborative learning, peer teaching etc
- use flexible grouping and engage in team teaching
- engage in shoulder-to-shoulder teaching, professional learning community and on-going reflective practice
- engage in targeted Professional Learning and Access a range of sources in order to remain informed of new ideas, approaches and pedagogies that will enhance their own classroom practice and the learning outcomes of their students

Learning Spaces:

- Flexible
- Bright
- Student work is displayed
- Environmental Literacy Cues displayed
- Scaffolds/cues for student learning displayed
- Open to everyone