

Learning and Teaching Policy

Formulated by: College Executive

This policy is to be read in conjunction with the Ave Maria College *Learning Community Policy* (2018), *Assessment and Reporting Policy* (2018), the *Learning Charter* (2018) and the *AITSL Professional Standards for Teachers*; as well as Federal and State Government directives as mandated.

Mission Statement

A *Learning and Teaching Policy* fosters our belief that we “guide each young woman to develop as a whole person, striving for excellence in all her endeavours. Our Catholic values are the lens through which all learning occurs, thus young women of Ave Maria College will be inspired to be critical thinkers and life-long learners, contributing to the wider community”. We are people of learning.

Rationale

Ave Maria College has developed a shared vision for teaching and learning for synergy of purpose and practice. Our Learning is:

- the building of our knowledge, the development of our skill, applied to our world.
- magnified in a vibrant learning environment where we share our learning and strive to grow our capacity and achievements individually and collectively.

Intentions

The College will

1. Strive to ensure student needs, perspectives and interests are reflected in the learning program.
2. Create a learning environment which promotes critical and creative thinking, academic resilience independence, and self-motivation.
3. Create a learning environment which is supportive and productive.
4. Provide opportunities for students to experience personal success as learners.
5. Have high expectations of students and support their pursuit of academic excellence
6. Pursue and share best teaching practices across the organization.
7. Acknowledge students who demonstrate the Learner Attributes.

Outcomes of these intentions

The College will

1. Establish and maintain a Learning Charter articulating our definition of learning and based on contemporary research, outline the behavioral attributes for successful learning and a shared view of effective teaching practices.
2. Require courses of study be documented in accordance with the protocols of the College, or other authorities, and reviewed annually.
3. Institutionalize the use of informal and formal, diagnostic, formative and summative assessment strategies to assess student learning.
4. Require teaching to be responsive to student learning needs and incorporate student voice.
5. Require teachers to use digital technologies and AveSpace Learning to enhance student engagement and achievement.
6. Acknowledge achievement, challenge underperformance and highlight areas for improvement
7. Promote effective and positive collaboration between teachers and students
8. Require teachers to implement practices that require student reflection and teacher self-reflection.
9. Require budget holders to prepare and submit budgets which support the College’s strategic priorities.
10. Provide appropriate resources within the parameters of the Annual Budget.

Ratified: Board of Governance

Date: November 1998. Reviewed Oct 2006, May 2009, Aug 2012, March 2018