

# Murtoa College

## LITERACY POLICY



### Rationale:

Literacy is a set of active, dynamic and interactive processes that involves making meaning from and constructing meaning through texts. Literacy enables people to understand, to appreciate, to make judgements and decisions, to act to control their lives, and to learn about themselves and their world.

The whole Murtoa College school community is involved in creating an environment in which literacy and literacy activities are valued and nurtured.

### Guidelines:

#### 1. *Professional Leadership*

- School Leadership is actively involved in ensuring that literacy learning is central to Murtoa College's improvement efforts. The Literacy Professional Learning Team, lead by the Literacy Coordinator, will ensure that the Literacy Improvement Action Plan is reviewed and updated, and that a school wide co-ordinated approach to literacy teaching is developed.

#### 2. *Shared Vision and Goals*

- Literacy is clearly related to Murtoa College's vision for its students (AIP). Teachers will work together to develop a shared view of what effective literacy teaching and learning looks like.

#### 3. *Accountability*

- Murtoa College will develop an assessment schedule and use data to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the Literacy programs. Performance and Development Plans will include literacy as a focus for review.

#### 4. *Focus on Teaching and Learning*

- Regular whole school and Professional Learning Team meetings will be held where the focus is on improving literacy teaching and learning.

#### 5. *Purposeful Teaching*

- The school will develop organised programs based on Victorian Curriculum. An Assessment Schedule will be developed and data will be used to inform teaching and provide feedback to students. Classroom programs will be orderly, based on effective routines and utilizing effective teaching approaches. Literacy learning will be promoted and encouraged via displays and the sharing of strategies.

#### 6. *High Expectations of All Learners*

- Teachers will have high expectations of all students backed with approaches to support them in their literacy learning. These expectations will be conveyed to students and parents in a positive manner. Effective intervention programs (Reading Recovery/Bridges)

and extension (Literary Festival/Spelling Bee/Public Speaking) will be employed to address the needs of students.

**7. Learning Communities**

- Murtoa College will provide regular opportunities to nurture collaboration and reflective practice through scheduled Professional Learning Team planning meetings and staff meetings. Literacy PD will be provided for the whole staff on a regular basis and new approaches to literacy will be developed, trialled and evaluated.

**8. Stimulating and Secure Environment**

- Teachers will present a relevant, rich and stimulating learning environment where students are challenged and engaged in their learning and supported in their efforts. Effective classroom and behaviour management processes will be in place to minimise disruption to learning.

**Evaluation**

This policy was last ratified by School Council in....

**June 2017**