THE ARTS - VISUAL ARTS

1. Aims:
   • To give students an understanding of the value of the visual arts as an important outlet for the communication of ideas, feelings and beliefs.
   • To develop students’ personal esteem, satisfaction, engagement and enjoyment through effective, successful artistic expression, self-reflection and response to art works.
   • To develop the intellectual and expressive potential of students through visual arts.
   • To develop an understanding of how the arts evolve within particular social, cultural and historical contexts.
   • To develop a sense of enjoyment and challenge in the processes of creating, presenting and responding to visual arts.
   • To recognise that the arts enhance and support other curriculum areas including literacy and numeracy.
   • To develop student responsibility in the use, care and organisation of materials, tools and equipment.

2. Implementation:
   • Classroom programs will be in line with the AusVELS curriculum.
   • Students will explore and use a variety of arts elements, skills, techniques, processes, media, traditional and contemporary materials, equipment and technologies in a range of two and three dimensional arts forms.
   • Links between visual arts and AusVELS domains in the physical, personal and social learning strand, discipline based learning and interdisciplinary learning stands will be explored.
   • Visual arts’ skills will be developed in a sequential program from prep to grade six.
   • Students will develop skills in exploring and responding to artworks by building their capacity for creative, critical and higher order thinking through the integration of classroom literacy skills with visual literacy understandings.
   • Students will explore and discuss ideas of culture, identity and self-expression.
   • Students’ artistic achievements will be shared within the school community and the wider community whenever possible.
   • Students will develop a comprehensive visual arts’ vocabulary.
   • The visual arts program will be provided to all students as a specialist program.
   • A stimulating, non-threatening, non-discriminatory environment relative to the students’ individual needs and interests will be provided.
   • The visual arts teacher, with support from a school events’ committee, will organize a biennial Art Show to showcase the students’ artistic achievements to the school and wider community.
   • Students will attend an excursion to a major gallery (eg National Gallery of Victoria) at least once in their seven years at Cambridge Primary School including a session with the Gallery educators. Once a grade level is selected, (eg grade 4) this same grade level will attend this excursion annually. This annual gallery excursion will not affect the incursion/excursion term allocation for the selected grade level.
   • Students will independently and collaboratively work to select and manipulate a range of media, materials equipment and technologies when experimenting with a range of skills, techniques and processes to plan, develop, refine and present artworks.
   • Assessment may include:
     - anecdotal records of children’s skill and knowledge acquisition in line with AusVELS
     - teacher observation of student participation and attitude
     - students’ self-evaluation of their own artworks
     - student teacher and parent feedback on the visual arts program

3. Evaluation
   • This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s three-year review cycle.