CATHOLIC EDUCATION MELBOURNE

Horizons of Hope

Learning Schema:
Learning and Teaching in a Catholic School

Reverence for the sacred dignity of each learner provides a foundation for pedagogy in a Catholic school. Through pedagogical choices educators seek to develop deep learning, powerful teaching and to create animated learners who are inspired by the Holy Spirit to act for justice and strive for the common good. (*Horizons of Hope: Pedagogy in a Catholic school*, p. 2 & 6.)

Deep Learning

Seeks truth through:
- critically interpreting today's world in light of the Catholic faith
- searching, questioning, inquiring, imagining and reimagining to construct meaning
- being open to see new possibilities in living the Gospel

Embraces difference by:
- ensuring that Catholic beliefs are presented invitationally
- seeking out a multiplicity of voices, ideas and practices
- considering religious, social, cultural, linguistic, historical, political, economic and ethical influences

Invites dialogue by:
- being open to transformation by allowing the Catholic tradition to affirm and confront views
- considering complex, moral and ethical questions
- encouraging deep encounters between tradition and contemporary life
- enabling an appreciation and understanding of the 'other' and others
- engaging with other philosophies and ways of life against the backdrop of a Catholic worldview
- involving deep listening and trust

embraces technology to discover, co-create and articulate knowledge and understandings

Animated Learners

Flourish through:
- being responsive to moments of grace in their lives
- embracing challenges
- being versatile, persevering and taking risks
- welcoming and providing feedback
- being problem finders and solvers
- being creative, curious and open-minded

Demonstrate agency by:
- taking responsibility for themselves, others and all of creation
- using cognitive, metacognitive and self-regulatory strategies
- seeing knowledge as connected and contestable
- being reflective and critical thinkers

Make a difference through:
- promoting the rights and development of all people across communities, nations and the world
- respecting diversity in language, culture and expressions of faith
- respecting, caring for and sharing the resources of the earth

Know themselves by:
- continuously critiquing and re-imagining themselves in dialogue with Catholic beliefs and practices
- reflecting on their own story and how this shapes who they are
- taking responsibility for and articulating their own beliefs, stance and worldviews

embraces technology to connect, apply and use new knowledge in authentic contexts

Powerful Teaching

Is intentional by:
- enacting pedagogies which reflect a Catholic understanding of the human person
- surfacing issues and big questions that matter to learners
- fostering students' interests, passions and spirituality
- creating experiences to critique, manipulate, form and transform knowledge
- developing culturally relevant and valued literacy practices
- explicitly scaffolding learning

Forms relationships by:
- witnessing the love of God which is reflected in life-giving human relationships
- uncovering and valuing the narrative of learners
- engaging in meaningful conversation with learners
- fostering connections between diverse perspectives, faiths, cultures and the emerging self
- developing connectedness, belonging and empathy with others

Inspires creativity through:
- emphasising visionary thinking in reflection, analysis, conceptualisation and application
- fostering social and ethical entrepreneurship
- disrupting the status quo through imagining new futures

Builds collaboration by:
- developing authentic learning partnerships with families and the community
- contributing, exchanging, negotiating, communicating and acting collectively
- using safe and productive virtual connections
- creating communities that are fair and just, allowing everyone to enjoy the goods of creation

Uses evidence to:
- support the growth of the whole person
- be transparent, inclusive and responsive to learners
- provide continuous forward-focused feedback
- be accountable to learners and families

embraces technology to enable learners to be active in leading their learning