



TEACHING AND LEARNING

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To promote teaching and learning practices that will improve the quality of education for all students.
- 1.2 To provide each student with a wide range of learning experiences, which will assist them to improve their own learning, develop their self-esteem, confidence and independence.
- 1.3 To foster a learning environment that both supports student learning and promotes excellence.
- 1.4 To provide a wide range of learning experiences that recognize different learning styles and prior learning.
- 1.5 To provide appropriate personnel, resources and facilities which will enhance teaching and learning practices.

2.0 GUIDELINES

- 2.1 Teaching and learning practices should acknowledge:
 - That all students are both capable of learning and want to learn
 - That students come from different backgrounds and learning experiences
 - That students have different learning styles and different rates of learning
 - That learning occurs in a range of settings
 - That students need regular and constructive feedback about their learning performance in order to reflect on and improve their learning
- 2.2 Teaching and learning practices should:
 - Develop and extend the abilities of all students
 - Allow students to develop a range of thinking skills/tools
 - Provide the opportunity for students to negotiate aspects of their learning
 - Provide the opportunity for students to develop generic learning skills/competencies
 - Include ICT activities
 - Include extension/enrichment activities to cater for gifted and talented students

- 2.3 Teachers should be provided with regular opportunities to reflect on their teaching practices and to keep abreast of current teaching and learning practices through ongoing professional development and the annual review process.
- 2.4 At Year 7 & 8 level there will be a focus on the development of professional learning teams in line with MYRAD findings. Teachers will be encouraged to participate in these teams and to work cooperatively in planning, implementing and evaluating teaching and learning activities.
- 2.5 A range of current resources should be provided to enhance teaching and learning practices.
- 2.6 An integral part of each teacher's responsibilities should be to implement sound teaching and learning practices.
- 2.7 The facilities and organization of the school should both support and enhance student learning.
- 2.8 Meetings should be linked to improved teaching and learning and structured in a way most likely to achieve this.

3.0 IMPLEMENTATION

- 3.1 Learning Domains, Professional Learning Teams and teachers will provide teaching and learning approaches which:
 - Involve students in actively planning, organizing and evaluating their learning
 - Assist students to take responsibility for their learning
 - Provide opportunities for students to succeed and be motivated to continue learning
 - Meet the needs of individual students and their learning styles
 - Build on previous learning and lead to further learning
 - Provide extension and enrichment learning activities
 - Build and support student self esteem and confidence
 - Encourage students to experiment, take risks and be creative

- Encourage students to make links between the different areas of learning
 - Enable students to apply their skills and knowledge in practical ways
 - Provide learning activities beyond the college environment
 - Enhance cooperation and respect between students and teachers
 - Use learning technologies as a tool for learning
 - Support current educational theory
 - Acknowledge gender and cultural differences
 - Encourage a view of lifelong learning
 - Are in harmony with the culture and values of the college community
- 3.2 The college will provide appropriate resources and facilities for teachers and students to support effective teaching and learning.
- 3.3 Professional Development opportunities will be provided for staff in line with the college's Professional Development Policy
- 3.4 Teachers will be responsible for maintaining cumulative records on individual student's progress and for providing reports to parents on this as outlined in the Assessment and Reporting Policy.
- 3.5 Parents will be encouraged to participate in teaching and learning activities such as excursions, sports and information nights.

4.0 EVALUATION

- 4.1 The policy will undergo cyclic minor and major evaluation.
- 4.2 Both minor and major evaluation will follow the evaluation procedures as outlined in the college evaluation policy
- 4.3 Attendance, behavioural incidents, attitudinal surveys and academic results will all be used in evaluating teaching and learning at the college.