THE ARTS: VISUAL ART AND PERFORMING ARTS POLICY

1. **Rationale:**
   1.1 The Arts include Visual and the Performing Arts. The Arts develop the artistic and aesthetic dimensions of human experience. They contribute to our intellectual ability and to our social, cultural and spiritual understandings. They are an essential element of daily living and of lifelong learning.

2. **Aims:**
   2.1 Encourage students to think critically, solve problems creatively, make evaluations, work within groups and appreciate different points of view.
   2.2 Give students the opportunity to create and respond to a range of Art works that express and communicate their observations, ideas and feelings about themselves and their world.
   2.3 Through performances, displays and exhibitions, the children will be able to share and celebrate their achievements with their peers and the broader school community.
   2.4 Provide opportunities for individuals and groups to explore ideas and feelings by using less conventional forms of communication.
   2.5 Encourage students to enjoy and appreciate the Arts.
   2.6 Provide the opportunity to explore and compare the Art works of others, to analyse, interpret and compare key features, symbols and cultural characteristics of Art works in a range of contemporary and traditional forms from different historic social and cultural contexts.
   2.7 Encourage the children to reflect, identify and discuss their own art work, work from other cultures and times and the function of the arts in their community using appropriate Arts language.

3. **Implementation:**
   3.1 All students at our school will experience sequential Arts based curriculum based upon the outcomes contained within the Victorian curriculum and the PYP ‘The role of the Arts’ document.
   3.2 Student progress in the Arts will be reported in half year and end of year academic reports.
   3.3 Students will experience 30 minutes of Dance and one hour of Visual Art and one hour of Music per 5 day week. These sessions will be conducted by specialist teachers.
   3.4 The various components of the Arts Education program will be made available to all students, and Arts experiences incorporated into the curriculum ensuring that they are relevant, challenging, offer diversity, are balanced, have continuity, and provide the students with the opportunity for achievement.
3.5 A whole school Education Week concert will be held yearly. An annual whole school Concert will give Year 6 students the opportunity for speaking roles and students in Years Prep to 5 will perform through singing and dancing. An End of Year concert will be held at the school.

3.6 The school’s staffing allocation allows for the employment of part-time specialist Dance, Music and Art teachers.

3.7 Private lessons are also available for students to learn instruments and participate in ensembles. These options are sourced privately and participation and cost is arranged by parents.

3.8 Funding is requested annually through the cyclic Program Budget process to enable effective and responsible implementation of proposed programs.

4. **Evaluation:**

4.1 This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s three-year review cycle. This policy was passed by School Council on 16th May 2016.