

# Early Years



## Curriculum Overview

The Curriculum programs in Early Years at MRC have been developed for students to experience individual growth through a progressive and targeted curriculum. It is important that students in the Early Years are provided with opportunities to build on their skills, knowledge and previous learning to further develop their individual learning capabilities. Therefore, the Teaching and Learning is developed through a collaborative approach that emphasises high expectations and the provision of targeted, engaging learning at the student's point of need.

Students with individual needs are targeted through individual learning improvement plans, these are implemented where required, to enable students to access the curriculum and achieve success.

The Teaching and Learning program across our Early Years Mini School involves explicit instruction of content across the following core areas:

### *Numeracy*

Numeracy Competency is both a daily essential and an enriching asset. Early Years students build on basic concepts and develop an ability to explore abstract notions of number representation and calculation. All learning activities in Numeracy Applied subjects are designed to be hands on and provide opportunities to apply knowledge to real life situations. All students in Early Years have access to the online tuition program Mathletics. Students use Mathletics to further develop the mathematical concepts taught in the classroom and can be assessed both at school and home. Teachers use Mathletics to assign students tasks to complete to reinforce their learning. Students have an individual account and can build skills and compete individually and in classes with students from other schools, both nationally and internationally.

### *Literacy*

Literacy is at the heart of students' ability to learn and succeed in school and beyond. In the Early Years students take part in reading, writing and spelling sessions on a daily basis. Key features of the Early Years literacy program include wider reading, author study, speaking and listening, smart spelling and writing genre practice. Every staff member has a commitment to extending literacy across the curriculum. Early Years students participate in a weekly library program, where they borrow regularly and learn library skills to further develop their knowledge.

### *Inquiry*

In Early Years students engage in semester based units in Science and Humanities, this is known as Inquiry.

Inquiry allows students the opportunities to explore Science through both written and practical experiences. Students study a range of Science units to further develop their Science knowledge and understanding.

In Humanities, students undertake units of History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship and Economics. Students engage in research based presentations, oral presentations, design and show casing of their hands on learning.

### **Specialist Programs**

In the Early Years students have the opportunity to experience many different and diverse specialist programs. These include:

- Perceptual Motor Skills (Prep)
- Physical Education and Health (Prep – 4)
- Japanese (semester based, Prep-4)
- Italian (semester based, Prep-4)
- Oral Language (semester based Prep)
- ICT (semester based Prep)
- Visual Arts (semester based Prep –4)
- Performing Arts (semester based Prep – 4)

### **Support Programs**

Mount Ridley College recognises that students often require a little support or extension in some areas of their learning. Students attending the College in the Early Years have access to literacy and numeracy Tutoring and intervention programs.

### **English as an Additional Language (EAL)**

Students who qualify for this program are supported by a specialist EAL teacher several times a week.