LEARNING AND TEACHING POLICY – 2010
To be reviewed: 2013

RATIONALE:

Teachers, in partnership with parents, play an important role in the development of the whole child. The teacher has a crucial role as the facilitator of learning, providing authentic and engaging experiences suited to the needs and interest of the individual. Such an environment helps to build a healthy self-concept in the students, promoting independence, inter-dependence and self motivation whilst enabling them to grow and develop their spiritual, physical, personal, social, intellectual, emotional and creative knowledge, skills and behaviours.

AIMS:

- To create a school environment that enables students to develop in all aspects of their being.
- To provide programs that aide students in understanding the world in which they live and to be able to act effectively within that world.
- To build positive relationships through knowing and valuing each student.
- To promote students’ self-confidence and willingness to take risks with their learning.
- To encourage and support students to take responsibility for their learning.
- To ensure that students receive frequent constructive feedback that supports future learning.
- To promote sustained learning with high expectations of achievement.
- To encourage parental interest and participation in each student’s learning.
- To plan for and support students to interact with local and broader communities.

IMPLEMENTATION:

Students are provided with opportunities to: make decisions, take risks, learn from mistakes and experience success.

When planning programs for the children in our care, we recognise that not all children learn in the same way or at the same rate; therefore we provide a variety of activities that cater for different learning styles. Our planning and teaching is driven by the students’ Inquiry-Based Learning needs and interests. It is organized according to a two year cycle.

To support effective learning the teachers at Our Lady’s will:
- work in partnership with parents as part of the educational process.
- be aware of students’ needs which may impact on their learning;
- respect, listen to and value the contributions of all students;
- plan thoroughly;

Growing together, in faith, for the future
• adopt best practice that allows for students to learn in different ways;
• provide opportunities that extend and develop the students’ understanding of themselves, their community and the world;
• provide opportunities for students’ self assessment and reflection.

To support effective learning the teachers at Our Lady’s will encourage the students to:
• listen to, respect and value the contribution of others;
• challenge themselves to broaden and deepen their skills and strategies in learning;
• responsibly engage in learning activities;
• participate cooperatively in learning activities;
• reflect on their learning and set goals for future learning;
• be active members of their local community and aware of global issues.

EVALUATION:

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