Cranbourne West Primary School No. 5189
NUMERACY POLICY

RATIONALE:
Numeracy is an integral part of a general primary education. It can enhance our understanding of our world and the quality of our participation in society. It is also one of the many ways of communicating information. Numeracy is an area of knowledge older than recorded history and has, through the ages, developed into a sophisticated, complex body of knowledge. It has applications in all human activities, crossing cultural and linguistic boundaries to provide a universal way of solving problems in areas such as science, engineering, technology, art, crafts and many everyday activities.

GENERAL STATEMENT:
Mathematics is a key domain in the Discipline-based Learning domain of the Australian Curriculum [AusVELS]. Numeracy is the application of mathematics in the real world.

The mathematics AusVELS document provides specific learning focus statements and standards for children in mathematics.

The standards in the Mathematics domain are organized in three content strands:
- Number and Algebra
- Measurement and Geometry
- Statistics and Probability

and four proficiency standards:
- Understanding
- Problem solving
- Reasoning
- Fluency

Goals:
- To develop useful mathematical skills and numeracy for successful general employment in a functioning society.
- To provide students with meaningful experiences and real life activities to consolidate, clarify and generalize maths understandings.
- To develop skills, concepts, applications and processes in the three content strands of Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry and Statistics and Probability.
- Explore the four proficiency standards of Understanding, Problem Solving, Reasoning and Fluency to develop the students' thinking and doing of maths.
- To develop confidence in the use of, and a positive attitude towards, mathematics.
- To ensure there is equal opportunity and access to mathematics for all students.
- To understand that mathematics is an integral part of all curriculum areas.
- To develop mathematics within the framework of an integrated curriculum.

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES:

The Numeracy course is based on the idea that understanding is dependent on the child's exploration of the concepts involved.The Numeracy program is developed aroung personalised learning using the strategies of collaborative teams, explicit teaching, targeted teaching and independent learning. To this end the Numeracy program should:

- Ensure that the three content strands and four profiency standards are planned for, and covered in full, at unit and year levels.
- Ensure Numeracy is implemented as an element of an integrated curriculum.
- Ensure that each student meets with success by providing appropriate learning activities at their point of need.
- Provide a variety of mathematical experiences for students through the use of: concrete materials, open ended activities, problem solving activities, real life applications, mathematical projects, themes, computer activities, integration with other programs, excursions and others with mathematical expertise.
- Provide equal access to equipment and resources for all students.
- Provide flexible teaching strategies, e.g. individual, group, whole class, multi age
- Involve parents in learning, at school and at home, through classroom and area activities, maths days/nights and children's reports.
- Provide access to professional development for teachers.
- Ensure teaching is from a base of concrete experience.

EVALUATION/ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING:

Assessment is based on the achievement of Specific Learning Outcomes outlined in the AusVELS document.The method of assessment depends on the content being covered and the style of teaching being used.

Assessment strategies may include:
- Open ended assessment tasks
- Teacher observation and questioning
- Formal/informal tests
- Pre and Post Testing
- Student self assessment
- Work samples
- Peer feed back
- Parental feed back
- Staff feed back
- Projects and assignments
- NAPLAN Years 3-5
- On Demand testing
- Assessment Rubrix

Records of assessment could include the use of:
- Student Learning Journals
- Checklists
- Anecdotal records
- NAPLAN Years 3-5

- Annual Program Survey
- Review by Curriculum Committee and Staff

Reporting formats will include:
- written achievement report to parents
- parent/teacher interviews
- school annual report
- Strategic Plan implementation report