YEA PRIMARY SCHOOL
SCIENCE POLICY

Ratified: November 2005

Purpose:

A Major goal of science education is to develop citizens who are capable of engaging in informal debate about science and its applications. Increasing emphasis will be placed on the role of science and the work of Australian and other scientists in addressing issues of sustainability at a local and global level. Science education provides opportunities for students to develop the skills and understanding appropriate to service and good citizenship. It also encourages students to articulate science values and accept the ethical principles embedded in science research. While only some students directly pursue a career in science and scientific research, all students need to appreciate the significance of science for the long-term future of our society.

Broad Guidelines:

Students will participate in hands on activities and experiments to-

- Develop scientific skills and conceptual knowledge
- Build on their curiosity and answer their own questions about themselves and the world.
- Develop an understanding on how science is used in personal and professional situations
- Acquire and use the skills of scientific investigation, reasoning and analysis to ask questions and seek solutions
- Develop scientific attributes such as flexibility, curiosity, critical reflection, respect for evidence and ethical considerations
- Recognise and understand the strengths and limitations of science.
- Be able to interpret and communicate scientific ideas effectively.
- Appreciate the role of science in social and technological change.
- Safety requirements/practices will be followed and reinforced.

Implementation:

- All students will study a sequential Science course based upon the outcomes contained within the Victorian Essential Learning Standards.
- Units are planned on a whole school sequential basis with a bias towards local/topical issues and student interest.
- Student's individual abilities will be measured at the commencement of each unit of work, and learning opportunities will be provided that cater for the identified needs of each student.
- Each grade will receive a weekly session of Science, in our well resourced Science room.
- Science activities will reflect the units being studied at school where possible and will be appropriate to each child's ability.

Student Evaluation:

Techniques used to assess students may include-

- Work samples
- Anecdotal notes

- Individual or group evaluations
- Projects/models
- Checklists
- VELS documentation
- Teacher Observations
- Student self evaluations
- Portfolios

Program Evaluation:

Techniques used to assess the Science program may include-

- Curriculum checklist using outcomes
- Curriculum Audit
- Student involvement and feedback
- Student Surveys
- Resources being utilised
- Skills and knowledge being developed