Basic Belief

Students of today require highly developed skills in order to become successful citizens. The ability to think effectively in all situations is paramount to each student’s potential to succeed and to prosper in an ever-changing, information rich and increasingly interactive world.

At Mansfield Primary School, we believe that it is critical to provide opportunities for students to develop within themselves, the abilities to think effectively and to make positive choices based upon sound thinking practices.

Implementation

- Thinking is an essential learning that needs to be taught, practised and developed.
- Our school curriculum will be developed in a manner that encourages thinking, and the development of thinking skills.
- All students at our school will have the opportunity to develop the skills to think systematically, to reason, to think laterally and creatively, to think caringly and ethically, and to think reflectively.
- The development of thinking skills will be interwoven into all curriculum areas with students being active participants in their own learning.
- Learning activities will be characteristically open-ended, developmental, based upon and developing multiple skills as listed in our Thinking Skills Continuum.
- Opportunities will be offered to all students to experience a variety of learning styles.
- Students will accept greater responsibility for their learning goals and progress by increasing participation in individual learning plans, by increasing involvement in school direction, and by critically analysing their own learning.
- Students will be active contributors to their own half-year and end of year academic reports, which will include self evaluations, progress on the development of thinking skills, and the identification of future learnings.
- All staff will be provided with the opportunity to undertake professional development related to the teaching of thinking skills.
- All parents will have opportunities to be involved in activities relating to the school’s thinking curriculum.

This policy was ratified by the Mansfield Primary School Council on – 16th August 2010

Review Date: 2013