VISION:
ST JOSEPH’S SCHOOL PROMOTES:
The education that we offer the children is a progressive introduction to a life in the community.

RATIONALE:
At St Joseph’s, it is held that Science and Technology are integral parts of the modern world. With the continual dramatic and rapid changes occurring (in these areas) it is essential for the children to be instructed to enable them to be active participants in our scientific and technological society.

In Science and Technology, we will endeavour to provide learning experiences which will assist in meeting the needs of both the individual and the wider community.

The implementation of this school’s Science and Technology curriculum will be based on the Inquiry Method which emphasises first hand experiences and will cater for the individual differences of the children.

Further, this curriculum will be integrated with other key learning areas in order to create a cross curricula thematic approach where appropriate.
METHODOLOGY:
In Science and Technology, we will endeavour to provide learning experiences which will assist in meeting the needs of both the individual and the wider community.

The implementation of this school’s Science and Technology Curriculum will be based on an Inquiry Hands on Method which emphasises first hand experiences and will cater for the individual differences of the children.

Further, this Curriculum will be integrated with other key learning areas in order to create a cross curricula thematic approach where appropriate.

ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING:
Pupils and program will be assessed in the light of our stated aims and objectives.

AIM:
The aim at St. Joseph’s is to develop in students competence, confidence and responsibility in their interactions with science and technology leading to:

- An enriched view of themselves, society, the environment and the future and
- An enthusiasm for further learning of science and technology.

OBJECTIVES:
Students will develop their knowledge and understanding of:

- Built Environments
- Information and Communications
- Living Things
- Physical Phenomena
- Products and Services
- The Earth and its Surroundings
- The Process of investigation that people use in order to satisfy their wants and needs
- The technologies people select and use; how these technologies affect other people, the environment and the future.

Reporting to parents will be twice yearly incorporated in the overall format of descriptive performance, supported by pupils work samples and activity sheets.

Children’s Profiles for completed units of work will be kept in the back of each individual's Science and Technology workbook.
**STUDENT SKILL DEVELOPMENT**
At St Joseph’s emphasis is placed on the development of the skills associated with inquiry and communication.

It is hoped that through involvement in the Science and Technology Key Learning Area the children will develop the following Inquiry Skills.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOWER PRIMARY</th>
<th>MIDDLE PRIMARY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Observing</td>
<td>Predicting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recording</td>
<td>Space –time relationships</td>
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<td>Classifying</td>
<td>Building equipment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Measuring &amp; Counting</td>
<td>Estimating</td>
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<tr>
<td>Handling &amp; Caring for Plants &amp; Animals</td>
<td>Manipulating</td>
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<td>Illustrating</td>
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<td>Reading &amp; Listening</td>
<td>Comparing/Contrasting</td>
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<td>Inferring</td>
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<td>Questioning</td>
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The development of the communication skills should be in several mediums:
- Speaking
- Questioning
- Writing
- Drawing
- Modelling
- Other means e.g. use of films, slides, tapes, graphs
- T.V. excursions

**PROFESSIONAL SKILL DEVELOPMENT:**
This particular policy expects that teachers will:
- Have an understanding of the inquiry approach
- Use teaching strategies that encourage individual differences and a ‘hands on’ approach to learning
- Revisit/rethink the theory which underpins thematic approach to subject integration
- Undertake research/appropriate inservices courses to keep up with new methods and approaches associated with the K – 6 Syllabus and the teaching of it.