Whole School Curriculum Audit Workshop

Purpose

This workshop is designed to be used at a meeting of the whole staff. It enables teachers to audit the school’s curriculum, to see which domains and dimensions of the VELS are currently incorporated. This audit will help staff to become familiar with the VELS and will inform future curriculum planning.

Process

This audit activity is designed to be used at a meeting of the whole staff.

1. Prepare 16 large sheets of paper – one for each domain of the VELS. Each should have the strand, domain and associated dimensions written at the top. For example:

   Strand: Physical, Personal and Social Learning
   Domain: Civics and Citizenship
   This domain includes two dimensions – civic knowledge and understanding and community engagement.

2. Provide online or hard copies of the VELS as a reference for teachers during this activity.
3. Provide each teacher with sticky notes.
4. Each teacher should look around the room at the 16 domain sheets and think about what programs* in their work with students would enable these domains to be addressed. If a sticky note does not seem to belong on any domains, place it on a separate sheet of paper for later discussion.
5. Teachers write the title and levels of each of these programs* on a sticky note, along with their name or initials. They then place the sticky notes on the sheet of paper under the appropriate domain.

Note: one program may need to be placed under several domains. Teachers could use different coloured sticky notes for programs at different levels, and use another colour for multi-level or whole school programs.

Outcome – Where to now?

- Discuss the spread of the sticky notes. What does this tell us about our current curriculum provision across the strands and domains of the VELS? Are there any gaps at particular levels or in particular domains?
• Use the results of this audit to inform future curriculum planning and record the results for future reflection.

* “Program” is a term used to cover a variety of work done with students. A program may be a subject, a unit or a special activity. Some examples include an early years numeracy program; Year 8 science; school play; Grade 6 buddies program; Year 5 integrated unit on frogs; Student Representative Council; whole school history program, etc.