



# Aquinas College

183 Pyes Pa Road, RD3, Tauranga 3173, NZ

## OPERATIONAL POLICY

### Curriculum

Latest Revision	March 2022
Reviewers	Principal, Assistant Principal – Teaching and Learning
Next Revision	March 2024
Associated Governance Policies	1.1 Curriculum Delivery 1.4 EOTC

#### **SPECIAL CHARACTER STATEMENT**

*Our College is the Catholic Church in action, an authentic expression of the Church's mission. Therefore, our role as a Catholic college, is, above all, to be a place where every member of this learning community can encounter the living God and our focus is on helping to form Christ in the lives of others.*

#### **INTRODUCTION**

*Our Catholic faith shall be at the heart of our curriculum. The delivery of the curriculum shall foster student progress and achievement and meet all Board expectations and legislative requirements.*

*Aquinas College implements the New Zealand National Curriculum Statement, in accordance with National Education Learning Priorities (NELP), which set out the Government's priorities for education that will ensure the success and wellbeing of all learners. They are statutory documents issued under the Education and Training Act 2020.*

*Aquinas College will provide deliberate opportunities to develop the skills, values and attributes inherent in our Graduate Profile alongside the development of the principles, key competencies and values in the New Zealand Curriculum. Our curriculum will foster student well-being and capabilities to enable our students to become Christ-centred individuals, contributing citizens in our community and New Zealand society.*

*Aquinas College, through the delivery of its curriculum, aspires to ensure that every student at the school can attain his or her highest possible standard in educational achievement.*

#### **GUIDELINES**

*The Board, through the Principal and Staff, will:*

- a) *Develop and implement teaching and learning programmes:*

- i. to provide all students in Years 7-10 with opportunities to achieve for success in all areas of the National Curriculum;
  - ii. to provide all students in Years 11-13 with opportunities to achieve for success in all areas of their chosen learning programmes;
- b) Through a range of assessment practices, gather information that is sufficiently comprehensive to enable the progress and achievement of students to be evaluated; giving priority first to:
  - i. student achievement in literacy and numeracy, especially in Years 7-8; and then to;
  - ii. breadth and depth of learning related to the needs, abilities and interests of students, the nature of the school's curriculum, and the scope of the national curriculum as expressed in The New Zealand Curriculum or Te Mātauranga o Aotearoa.
- c) On the basis of good quality assessment information, identify students and groups of students:
  - i. who are not achieving;
  - ii. who are at risk of not achieving;
  - iii. who have special needs, and
  - iv. who are of Māori and Pacific descent. – Mātauranga Māori / Tapasa – culturally responsive
- d) Develop and implement teaching and learning strategies to address the needs of students and aspects of the curriculum identified in c) above;
- e) In consultation with the school's Māori community, develop and make known to the College's community policies, plans and targets for improving the achievement of Māori students; and
- f) Provide appropriate career education and guidance for all students in Year 7 and above, with a particular emphasis on specific career guidance for those students who have been identified by the school as being at risk of leaving school unprepared for the transition to the workplace or further education/training.

## **PROCEDURE**

1. The Aquinas College Strategic Plan will identify strategic goals, complimented by the Annual Plan, which identifies the annual goals and student achievement targets.
2. The overall leadership of curriculum development lies with the Deputy Principals responsible for Teaching and Learning in collaboration with the Leaders of Learning.
3. Our curriculum will provide equal and inclusive educational opportunities for all groups of learners. It will reflect the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi and the Special Character of the College.
4. The College adopts strategies promoted by Ka Hikitia and Tapasa to improve Māori and Pacific Persons achievement.
5. A variety of learning and teaching styles and strategies will be employed as appropriate to the needs of students.
6. A range of assessment practices will be developed and utilised to ensure that all students are able to demonstrate the progress they have made.
7. Staff Professional Development will be prioritised, planned and provided within the confines of available resourcing to support this policy and in accordance with the Aquinas College Strategic Plan priorities.
8. Students will experience a range of digital technologies to enhance learning and innovation and develop understandings of digital citizenship.

9. *Promote student health and wellbeing in school programmes and culture.*
10. *Curriculum development will engage student agency in learning programmes.*
11. *Every two years the school consults on the delivery of the health curriculum.*
12. *The school will provide an integrated careers programme that ensures all students receive careers and subject choice advice that is cohesive, sequential and effectively co-ordinated.*
13. *College-wide achievement data will be tracked for individual students and groups of students and will be provided to the Principal by Leaders of Learning annually in the form of statistical evidence supported by analysis.*

### ***Related Procedures***

1. *Procedure for Learning Support Centre*
2. *Procedure for Gifted and Talented Students*
3. *Procedure for Future Pathways (Career Advice and Guidance)*
4. *Procedure for Education Outside the Classroom*
5. *Procedure for Dealing with Potentially Offensive Content*
6. *Procedure for Cybersafety (Digital Technologies)*
7. *Procedure for Reporting to the Community*
8. *Procedure for Annual Curriculum Review*