RATIONALE

Werribee Secondary College is committed to becoming a leading international school within the Victorian education system and to ensure that all students maximise their learning growth and reach their full potential. Furthermore, an effective school should build teacher capacity and effectiveness in a supportive culture of continuous learning.

The ‘Engage’ WSC Teaching and Learning Cycle represents ‘how we teach’ and is designed to articulate the College’s common approach to planning and delivery of outstanding lessons. In the cycle we describe our core principles which we believe are crucial for effective learning to take place. The cycle essentially guides and supports students and teachers through the learning phases, while still allowing for individual pedagogical styles in the classroom.

This policy establishes a common Teaching and Learning Cycle across the college to create consistency in the delivery of curriculum, that provides both students and staff with a common pedagogical language and offers a collective framework based on both theory and the College’s best practice.

Implementation of an instructional model will encourage teachers to evaluate and improve their practice, increase instructional effectiveness and narrow the variability of attainment within the College. The ‘Engage’ WSC Teaching and Learning Cycle will promote student engagement and aspires to improve student learning outcomes across the College.

PURPOSE

A common instructional model will:

- Create consistency in the delivery of the curriculum to reduce the variability in student outcomes between classrooms.
- Develop a school-wide shared understanding of a common vocabulary about teaching and learning.
- Outline the role assessment and feedback plays in enhancing student achievement.
- Help teachers at the College to design and deliver lessons that address the diverse needs of all learners.
- Draw all the threads of previous Professional Development together (e.g. Formative Assessment, Feedback, Gradual Release of Responsibility, Marzano – Classroom Instruction that Works).
- Provide a common template for all units of work and lesson plans.
- Encourages all teachers to reflect and improve on their teaching capacity and provides a framework for peer observations and feedback/coaching.
- Enables staff to personalise their own professional development via self-reflection and student feedback identifying areas for further development.
- Maximise the chances of student success in all classrooms.
REQUIREMENTS

At Werribee Secondary College there is an understanding that:

1. Teachers are expected to:
   - have an understanding of effective practice for each phase of the Learning Cycle.
   - plan and deliver engaging and challenging lessons using the Learning Cycle phases and specific criteria.
   - have high expectations for all students.
   - ensure the classroom climate is a supportive and purposeful one that is conducive to high quality learning.
   - have deep knowledge of the subjects they teach and continually develop this.
   - Share and review learning intentions.
   - be committed to employ a range of teaching strategies to cater for all styles of learning and the full range of educational needs within each class.
   - use effective questioning and routinely employ assessment for, as and of learning.
   - employ a variety of formative and summative assessment strategies to inform future learning.
   - use student learning data to inform future teaching and learning.
   - regularly provide quality feedback (verbal and written) which moves students’ learning forward.
   - provide students with opportunities to reflect on their learning.
   - reflect and develop professional practice via engaging in peer observations/coaching and self-reflection and student feedback using the framework as a guide.
   - work collaboratively with colleagues to plan lessons and units of work.
   - integrate ICT into lessons when appropriate.
   - collaborate with other teachers to ensure excellent learning outcomes for all students.

2. Students are expected to:
   - arrive on time and are ready to learn.
   - be fully equipped for the lesson.
   - work to the best of their ability at all times.
   - seek additional assistance from their teacher, as required.
   - exhibit a positive attitude to learning and fully participate in all set activities.
   - ask questions, self-assess and reflect on learning.
   - develop new ways of thinking.
   - apply new concepts, skills and understanding when required.
   - work with peers to review and reflect on their learning.
   - respond to feedback from the teacher to improve their work.
   - know how to improve their current level of attainment through feedback received.
   - meet all deadlines set by teachers.

MONITOR AND REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed in three years (2018) in order to take into account new initiatives, changes in curriculum or other changes that impact teaching and learning at Werribee Secondary College.
The ‘ENGAGE’ Teaching & Learning Cycle

1. Explain Learning Connections
   - Checking for readiness to learn
   - Revisit prior learning/existing knowledge
   - Energizing learning hook
   - Engage students with links to big picture/relevance to real world

2. Now Learning Intentions
   - Explicit learning intentions shared with students
   - Intentions should be achievable, relevant, challenging, and clear
   - Success criteria shared or generated if required

3. Generate Interest in New Learning
   - Explicitly teach concepts and skills
   - Quality modelling / demonstrations (I do, we do, you do)
   - Relevant and essential academic vocabulary
   - Employ multiple ways to present information using appropriate resources (variety is key)
   - Examples provided for consolidation
   - Effective questioning and student input to promote HOTS

4. Apply, Develop and Consolidate Learning
   - Activities for students to demonstrate their knowledge
   - Differentiated learning to meet all students needs
   - Active participants rather than passive recipients of knowledge
   - Collaboration with peers
   - Students take responsibility for their own learning and self-regulation encouraged
   - Incorporate high-yield instructional strategies
   - Examples/samples of expected outcomes to set high expectations
   - Effective use of ICT

5. Gauge Progress/Learning Checks
   - Formative assessment (progress checks throughout) and intervention where required
   - Specific and timely feedback (verbal and/or written from teacher/peer/self) on how to improve
   - Effective questioning employed to gauge understanding
   - Summative assessment
   - Use of assessment to inform future learning/teaching

6. Evaluate/Review Progress
   - Reflection, review and consolidation of what was learnt in the lesson in relation to content knowledge and skills
   - Where do our learning take us next? Planning, challenges, links and questions – revisit the big picture
   - Acknowledgement of successes and achievement within lesson

Core Principles
- Supportive learning environment
- Engagement
- Formative assessment
- Challenge
- Differentiation

Cycle may take place a number of times in an individual lesson or over a series of lessons.