

Burwood East Primary School

BEPS Student Learning Overview

School Philosophy

Burwood East Primary School seeks to provide all students with a safe and supportive educational environment. We guide our students to be independent learners who participate, and contribute as global citizens.

Goals

- To improve student learning outcomes in literacy and numeracy.
- To develop students who are confident in their learning, self-motivated, engaged and resilient.
- To build the school's capacity to provide seamless and successful transition between all year levels, entry and graduation.

Values

- Respect
- Responsibility
- Resilience
- Confidence
- Honesty

Beliefs about Student Learning

Students at Burwood East are treated as individuals and our undertaking as educators is to maximise their learning potential and develop them to their most extensive level. The staff at Burwood East facilitates opportunities for creative, open-ended and challenging approaches to the delivery of a comprehensive curriculum. Our school student learning focus includes:

Having high expectations

At BEPS our teachers strive to motivate and engage all their students in learning rather than simply accepting that some students cannot be engaged and are destined to do poorly. They believe every student is capable of achieving success at school and they do all they can to find ways of making each student successful. Our teachers have high expectations of students in terms of both their standard of learning and their behaviour, and they help their students meet those expectations. They also have high expectations of themselves and their own learning.

Acknowledging individual differences

BEPS teachers personalise the learning for their students. They understand that students develop at different rates and that in every classroom there will be a range of student abilities and aptitudes. They accommodate the different needs of students in their class rather than pitch their teaching to the middle, letting some students be bored while others struggle or are unable to do the work. Our teachers use techniques that have each student working on tasks that engage and challenge them to achieve their personal best. They understand that students learn best when they are presented with new material in a way that enables them to connect it to what they already understand and know how to do. Our teachers also understand that students learn best if their particular culture, background and abilities are acknowledged by the teacher in the way they teach.

Using a range of pedagogies

BEPS teachers use techniques that best serve the learning needs of their students. There are many things that students can learn themselves through discovery, with the teacher structuring the learning to suit. There also are many things that require the teacher to teach in a more direct way. Students not only learn by being exposed to learning opportunities but they also need to be explicitly taught those things it is important for all students to know. Some students will learn these things quickly and with only minimal direct teaching. Other students will need concerted direct teaching and correction by the teacher before they master the learning required. BEPS teachers help students learn on their own as well as with and from others. They know that students learn best if they are provided with opportunities to learn not only from the teacher but also from other students and from sources outside the school that are now more readily accessible through various forms of technology.

Encouraging student responsibility

BEPS teachers teach in a way that encourages students to take greater responsibility for their own learning. They make sure their students know what the goals of the learning program are; understand how these goals will be assessed; know whether they are on track to achieve success; and are actively involved in evaluating their own learning.

Providing a safe environment

BEPS teachers provide a safe and orderly environment, both physically and emotionally, so students can achieve their potential. They know students learn best if they are in a classroom where they feel safe and confident to attempt new tasks even if at first they are unsure about how to tackle them.

Building positive relationships

BEPS teachers develop productive relationships with their students – they get to know them and take a particular interest in their overall development and progress. They treat their students with respect and expect the same in return. Effective teachers work collaboratively to benefit student learning.

BEPS teachers closely monitor each student's achievements. This enables them to provide every one of their students with regular feedback on their performance, and gives them valuable information to assess the impact of their teaching. BEPS teachers are in the habit of constantly reflecting on how well they are getting through to their students and searching for better ways of teaching those who are not responding as well as extending those who are achieving well. BEPS teachers understand the standards their students are expected to achieve and use a range of assessment methods to determine the extent to which those standards are being met and to plan the next steps.

Burwood East Primary School Curriculum Design

