Name of Subject: Scientific Studies

Stage: 2

General information: Through Scientific Studies students develop knowledge of scientific principles and concepts through their own investigations. They develop the skills and abilities to explain scientific phenomena, and to draw evidence-based conclusions from investigations of science-related issues. This subject is ideal for students who have an interest in science and science related issues, who have studied a Science at Stage One and who are not considering Biology, Chemistry or Physics.

Content: The content covered in this course is flexible and can be designed to suit the range of interests and abilities of the students enrolled. Over the year, two unifying themes will be selected and student will undertake study of four to six topics related to either of these themes. An example of a theme and potential topics is shown below:

Example Theme: The importance of science in contemporary Australia

Potential Topics:
- Climate change
- Food technology
- Carbon trading
- Pollution
- Water conservation
- Sustainability

Assessments:
Scientific Studies at Stage 2 has a school-based assessment component and an external assessment component. Tasks will be of one of the following assessment types:

School-based Assessment (70%)
- Assessment Type 1: Investigations Folio (40%)
- Assessment Type 2: Skills and Applications Tasks (30%)

External Assessment (30%)
- Assessment Type 3: Practical Investigation – up to 2000 words (30%).

At least one investigation or skills and applications task will involve collaborative work.

Students will complete eight to ten assessments, including the external assessment component. Students undertake:

Special Information: In this course no final exam is set.

Prerequisites: Nil

Preferred prerequisites:
- completions of a science subject at stage one level and an interest in science and contemporary scientific issues
- Students need to be prepared to write report up to 2000 words several times in the year.