The Contemporary Learning Experience

2018 Update
“We need a new narrative for education that can engage and inspire children and their families. Let us fire kids up with the deep satisfaction of discovery and exploration. They are born with learning zeal; let us recognize, celebrate and protect it, but also stretch, strengthen and diversify it.”

- Claxton
At Red Hill Consolidated School we implement a modern approach to teaching, learning and curriculum that is in line with best practice from around the world. Our educational philosophy operates under the belief that all students have a right to learn. We believe that all students can learn, surprise and amaze us with their understandings. We cater for this by valuing creativity, appreciating diversity and providing challenge with a personalized and differentiated context. Students are presented with learning in contextually relevant scenarios, the learning is question driven and student centered. The Contemporary Learning Experience (CLE) is committed to an outstanding skills base being developed by all students; skills are the transferable commodity of the 21st Century. Finally the Contemporary Learning Experience is enriched by Technology. The graphic below visually represents the defining characteristics of “The Contemporary Learning Experience” for all members of our community.

WHY PROVIDE A CONTEMPORARY LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Red Hill Consolidated Contemporary Learning Experience – CLE 2019
A CONTEMPORARY LEARNING EXPERIENCE UNPACKED

CONTEXTUALLY RELEVANT – Teaching, Learning and Curriculum is presented in a manner that provides context to the content. Building connectedness to the learning and establishing purpose and relevance is achieved through sharing real world contexts in which the learning has value. Contextual relevance provides purpose for and drives the establishment of meaningful questions.

STUDENT CENTERED – Teaching, Learning and Curriculum is student centered. Learning is differentiated to suit the needs of each student. The learning experience incorporates opportunities for personalisation. These two elements impact on both learning outcomes and student engagement.

QUESTION DRIVEN – Questions are the stuff of learning and teachers intelligently use these to drive the learning process. Student questions are acknowledged and reflected in the learning process, whilst teacher directed questions ensure challenging new learning experiences are explored. Questions are shared, embraced and extrapolated from contextually relevant situations.

SKILLS BASED – The learning program at Red Hill Consolidated is skill based. Whilst students are exploring questions that engage them, are meaningful and relevant, teachers will emphasize skill development ensuring preparation for a future in which a highly developed set of contemporary learning skills will be required.

TECHNOLOGY ENRICHED - The learning environment and curriculum is continually being enriched with technology. Students engage and create with technology in order to enhance their learning across all subject areas. Technology is positioned as part of the learning experience, students are challenged to use technology responsibly and they use it as an integral part of their learning. In the CLE we embrace technology when it allows us to make anew, think anew or act anew.
“School systems should base their curriculum not on the idea of separate subjects, but on the much more fertile idea of disciplines... which makes possible a fluid and dynamic curriculum that is interdisciplinary.”

- Sir Ken Robinson
WHAT WILL CLE LOOK LIKE FOR YOU AND YOUR CHILD?

Your child will enter classrooms in which the teaching approach is common and founded upon similar beliefs. This does not mean that teachers teach the same content in exactly the same way, but rather there is consistency around the language we use and the way we approach the learning process. This supports students to feel comfortable and confident in the learning experience.

Your child will experience greater opportunities to collaborate, working with their peers, students from other levels and a range of teachers to achieve their excellent progression in their learning. The emphasis within our learning program is on all students making progression. We recognise that all students will achieve differing levels of achievement, however we expect all students to continually demonstrate strong learning progress. Our community values, acknowledges and rewards learning progress.

The Contemporary Learning Experience has a focus on developing transparency for all members of the community. We demystify the learning and assessment expectations. Learning intentions, individual and group learning goals make the Contemporary Learning Experience clear and understandable for all. Greater transparency builds community understanding and connection with the program. The learning experience uses transparency to direct the emphasis onto progression in all areas of learning.

Staff work diligently to ensure students feel a strong sense of connectedness to their teacher, classroom, school and community. Red Hill Consolidated School maintain close connections to the community and exploit its unique location and environment to build an even greater sense of community. The Contemporary Learning Experience values creativity, provides opportunities for students to develop their creative capacity and ensures students learn that creativity, whilst prominent in the arts, exists in all elements of life and learning.

The Contemporary Learning Experience will take place in dynamic learning environments; students take ownership for their learning, responsibility for their behavior and have pride in their school. Our learning spaces involve shared leadership, flexibility of use and an acknowledgement that learning looks and sounds different for all individuals. Our learning environments reflect pride, care and dynamism.
Curriculum Features of the CLE at RHCS include:

- Engaging learning explorations that cover national curriculum objectives and build skill level.
- Personalised Mathematics lessons that cover all areas of mathematics with an emphasis on outstanding results in number and problem solving.
- Differentiated teaching of English with targeted reading and comprehension strategies.
- Every child working on spelling that focuses on phonics, every year.
- Balanced use of technology that enhances the curriculum.
- Grammar & punctuation taught as part of writing to give it relevance and meaning.
- PE & Health that promotes skill acquisition.
- Creative, skills based programs in the arts.
- Science as we see it in everyday life.
- Planned teaching of skills that enhance well being, mental health and cyber safety.
- Financial literacy.

Features of the CLE Classroom at RHCS include:

- a learning environment that is student centered and involves learning through social interaction.
- transparent and articulated learning goals and intentions.
- classroom and school wide learning agreements for all students.
- teachers learning with and alongside students in partnership with shared assessment and co-developed expectations.
- technology rich learning experiences.
- students being actively engaged in and reflecting on an experience.
- students learning by building on what they already know.
- students developing higher-order thinking through guidance at critical points in the learning process.
- recognition that students have different ways of learning.
- cognitively appropriate forms of instruction.