

SOMERVILLE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL POLICY ON SOCIAL STUDIES

RATIONALE:

Students need to be able to participate in a changing society as informed, confident and responsible citizens.

Charter Reference: Students Goal
 Curriculum Goal

Legislative Reference: NAG 1

PURPOSES:

1. To assist students to develop ideas and skills which will contribute to their understanding of themselves and their society, and enhance their participation in that society as confident, informed, responsible and tolerant members.
2. To help students think clearly and critically about human behaviour and values and how diverse peoples make decisions and meet their needs.
3. To enhance students' sense of personal identity and foster their participation in the affairs of their own and the wider community.
4. To develop an understanding of Aotearoa New Zealand's bicultural heritage and multicultural society.
5. To ensure classroom practices occur which promote tolerance of different cultures.

GUIDELINES:

1. The "Social Studies in the New Zealand Curriculum" and the Social Studies statements in the Somerville Intermediate School programme will be used as a basis in the planning of Social Studies programmes.
2. Social Studies programmes will reflect one or more of the five strands, social organisation and processes; culture and heritage; place and environment; time, continuity and change and resources and economic activities.
3. The five strands in Guideline two will be incorporated into the skills and processes which will allow for the development of research and inquiry.
4. The settings (Global, The Pacific, Asia, New Zealand) will be covered within a range of contexts and learning activities and across all strands at each achievement level.
5. Students will be assisted to interpret and respond to social situations rather than merely describe them, and through this gain knowledge, ideas and skills.
6. A variety of approaches will be used to provide a balanced programme. These will include co-operative learning, inquiry, action learning and resource based learning.

7. Students will be taught to recognise and appreciate individual differences. Social Studies programmes will value, acknowledge, respect and include the interests, perspectives, and contributions of all students irrespective of gender, culture and social and religious background.
8. Up to three learning outcomes will be assessed for each unit and recorded. This information will be used to assist the learning process and to help evaluate the effectiveness of teaching programmes.
9. A two year programme will be formulated to ensure students cover all strands, settings, perspectives, essential skills and processes while at Somerville Intermediate School.
10. Achievement objectives from other curriculum areas, most notably English, will often be included in the planning of Social Studies programmes.

DATE:	Written 27/7/97	Adopted 21/11/02	Latest Amendment 11/11/02	Readopted 18/03/04
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