

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School Thursday Island

02/03/2017

Dear Parents,

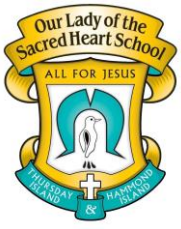
Early in Term 1, we commenced a review of the Explicit Direct Instruction resource that we are using as a tool to support the delivery of the Australian Curriculum English at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School.

The resource was initially accessed to provide consistency of teaching across the school, using a structured programme for the explicit teaching of English.

After reviewing the programme this term, the leadership team has decided to finalise the use of the resource at the end of Term 1 instead of at the end of this year.

As the development of an expert teaching team is paramount to our school effectiveness plan for 2017 in providing quality learning and wellbeing for all, we are empowering our staff to use explicit teaching in the classroom through their own programmes for English. We have an experienced staff of teachers who would like to initiate differentiated learning in their classroom guided by their own experience, knowledge and resourcing.

To assist staff with the transition at the commencement of Term 2, members from the Curriculum Team and Indigenous Education Team at Catholic Education Services will be visiting next week to provide additional support for planning and resourcing. This will continue to assist our focus and belief that the students of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School are provided access to a high quality of learning which is reviewed and reflected upon based on feedback, support and professionalism.



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We also welcome teachers to the school from the Diocesan Primary Schools to release the teachers during sessions for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday so that they can receive professional learning and time for planning. This occurs in most of our schools, however is always a challenge in the Torres Straits and remote areas due to the accessibility of relief teachers.

The staff of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School appreciate the time and support of the teachers and CES staff members who are coming up next week to support the preparation and planning for Term 2 in the areas of curriculum. Staff will be released in two teams of early childhood teachers and middle/senior teachers.

We thank all members of the community who have provided support and feedback to the delivery of curriculum in our school and look forward to working together to strengthen the learning environment in partnership with Catholic Education Services and the wider community.

Take care,

Sharon County
Principal