Literacy at Aquinas Catholic College

What is Literacy?

Literacy is a socially constructed process that involves the development of skills and knowledge to make meaning and communicate effectively in a variety of contexts.

These skills may take the form of understanding and evaluating meaning through the processes of:

- Reading
- Writing
- Listening
- Speaking
- Thinking
- Viewing
- Representing
- Creating

In our fast paced world, these skills are often interrelated and change rapidly with the use of new technologies.

In this way, Literacy can be thought of as a moving target, continually redefining how the process of finding meaning is developed, depending on what society expects literate individuals to do.
In secondary schooling developing and then sustaining mastery over an ever changing set of literacy capabilities is central to achievement in all areas of learning as students progress into the workforce and on into personal life.

These literacy skills need to continually expand and diversify and will require competence in a range of new medias and multi-modal forms of communication.

**Teaching Literacy @ Aquinas Catholic College**

At Aquinas Catholic College we acknowledge that teaching literacy effectively is intrinsic to our teaching skills and inherent in the learning for all subjects across the curriculum.

We understand that if students are to learn effectively they must become literate in all areas of the curriculum.

We realise that Literacy teaching will draw on the strengths of a comprehensive range of evidence and research-based approaches to meet the learning needs of all our students.

Therefore, we seek to develop and continually refine a broad and responsive set of effective literacy teaching practices to meet these diverse learning needs of all students. We understand that teaching literacy is a responsibility across ALL Key Learning Areas, for all teachers.
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