THE LAKES SOUTH MORANG COLLEGE
EARLY YEARS PROGRAM POLICY

Rationale:
• The establishment of sound and well developed literacy and numeracy skills at an early age have been demonstrated as essential to future student learning. Students who leave the Early Years of schooling unable to read or write effectively, make little gain in the later years.

Aims:
• To provide a program that ensures all students are numerate and can read and write effectively by the time they graduate from Year Four.

Implementation:
• Our school has identified the Early Years literacy and numeracy programs as a whole school priority and is committed to being involved in the DET Early Years program from Prep to Year Four.
• The school has appointed a Curriculum Leading Teacher / Learning Coach who is required to oversee and coordinate all aspects of the program in conjunction with Curriculum Liaison Leaders.
• The Leading Teacher will provide support and direction to staff within teams when needed, and will organise professional development as required.
• The school will follow the Early Years model, and when possible, provide for 2 uninterrupted literacy sessions and 1 numeracy session.
• Literacy and numeracy support will be provided for all students who require assistance through Individual Learning Improvement Plans. This may result in the forming of targeted and flexible focus groups.
• Appropriate teaching and learning support will be made available for all staff during PLT planning sessions.
• Classroom Helpers professional development programs will be offered to parents, parent helpers and all teaching and integration aides.
• An assessment schedule, consistent with Early Years requirements, will be developed and implemented, with minimum achievement standards and targets being set for all students in reading. Running records will be a feature of classroom programs as a means to monitoring student achievement in reading.
• Ongoing assessment data will be collected and analysed, with the results being used to monitor performance, as well as to drive program development and delivery.
• Where possible Oral Language support programs will be implemented using Education Support staff.

Evaluation:
• This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s three-year review cycle.

This policy was ratified at School Council on 31/10/2017.

The Lakes South Morang College Child Safety Statement:
To thrive, children need a safe and supportive environment at school, at home and in the broader community; no exceptions. At The Lakes South Morang College, we believe meeting the physical and emotional needs of our students is paramount in laying the foundations for a fulfilling future. We pledge to provide an environment that has zero tolerance to child abuse and will strive to work in partnership with our parents and community members to keep our students safe every day, in every way.