



# TIWI COLLEGE



## Curriculum Overview

### **Structure:**

For cultural reasons and therefore a more conducive learning environment we have single sex classes.

Tiwi College is currently structured in the following way;

- Primary class
- Middle School Girls (11-14/15)
- Middle School Boys
- Senior Girls (15/16 ongoing )
- Senior Boys

These classes are composed of students with differing literacy levels and maturity, thus the composition of each class is flexible to ensure the best learning environment possible for the young Tiwi.

### **Timetable:**

Our timetable is reflective of the passion of the Tiwi – AFL Football.

Each day has 4 quarters:

1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter:	8:30 –10:00am
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	10:30am – 12:00pm
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	12:00 – 1:45pm
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	2:00 – 3:15pm

### **Academic staff work hours:**

8:00am	Planning meeting
8:30– 3:15	Lessons
3:30 – 4:30	Monday – Wednesday. Structured Team Planning /Academic Meeting time.
7:00 – 7:30	Homework - Tuesday & Wednesday (Academic staff and FGH staff )
Fridays	Day ends 2:30pm

We have a team of drivers that pick up students of a Monday and drop off students of a Friday, which provides Academic staff with individual planning & preparation time for their classes.



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## **Curriculum:**

Our first half of the day is strictly devoted to Literacy and Numeracy. In the afternoons other subject areas are taught especially the more tactile subjects which are the strength of the Tiwi. We focus on sport, art, music, dance, horticulture and cooking.

Our “after-school” programs are also regarded as part of schooling and are therefore reported on.

Within each class, all teaching is delivered according to the levels of the students. We emphasis a team based approach to learning, as the young Tiwi work better using this method.

Each literacy and numeracy unit is expected to be pre and post tested and improvements openly explained to students and the wider Tiwi Community, via student reports and reporting to Tiwi Education Board members.

Tiwi College uses a combination of phonics based learning via Fitzroy Readers, PM Readers, Thrass concepts, Jolly Phonics, Honey Ant Readers, a Streamed Reading Program and Accelerated Literacy as our approach to improving literacy rates.

Our numeracy program uses the T-9 Net as our numeracy continuum. Using the National Curriculum as a framework, we use such programs as Quicksmart, Mathletics and “VET Maths” to assist in student engagement and learning.

Our Primary school has a very strong focus on phonics based learning. A variety of programs and levelled readers are used to systematically improve the literacy of students.

In the Middle School, the staff follow the Remote Schools Curriculum and Assessment Materials as a framework for units of work, thus adhering to NTFC standards.

At the Senior School we enrol our students in the Northern Territory Open Education Centre, in order to offer breadth of curriculum and provide pathways for our more academic students. We will implement Personalised Learning Plans to assist our students narrow their focus on career aspirations for the future. Vocational Education & Training, with a combination of Work Experience and Structured Workplace Learning is a major focus of the school.

We aim not to have a graduation ceremony for finishing students but a series of ceremonies celebrating the transition of students into the workplace/further study.

## **Assessment:**

All units of work use a combination of standardised tests or pre and post testing in order to obtain objective data regarding levels of improvement. These are collated and records kept by the classroom teacher and the Curriculum Coordinator.

Literacy & Numeracy results along with completion of units in VET are collated by the Principal and reported to the Tiwi Education Board, as part of auditing our College Mission Statement. Tiwi College records grades based on NTCE ESL levels. This is collated by the classroom teacher and is documented in the student files.



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## **Reporting:**

Reporting is done per semester to our community. To ensure clear understanding and communication of results, the student's pre and post testing results in Literacy and Numeracy are placed on a scale from "Pre-School" to "Work Ready". These have band levels clearly marked.

Students and parents are able to see any progression along this scale very easily and know where their son/daughter is, in terms of "Work Ready" levels.

Other units are reported in a similar style for ease of use for parents. The students' results are shown on a 5 point scale.

It is Tiwi College policy to have a day at the end of each semester when staff travel to the communities to hand deliver the reports and speak with parents and care givers regarding students' academic results along with their attitudes and behaviours.