

This Health Curriculum has been specifically designed to incorporate the key principles underlying the Principles of Learning and Teaching (PoLT).

The PoLT initiative is a component of the Blueprint for Victorian Government Schools, Flagship Strategy 1: Student Learning. The principles aim to capture the essence of effective learning and teaching and provide a basis for teachers to review and develop their teaching practices. The Principles of Learning and Teaching states that students learn best when:

1. The learning environment is supportive and productive
2. The learning environment promotes independence, interdependence and self-motivation
3. Students’ needs, backgrounds, perspectives and interests are reflected in the learning program
4. Students are challenged and supported to develop deep levels of thinking and application
5. Assessment practices are an integral part of teaching and learning
6. Learning connects strongly with communities and practice beyond the classroom

The Principles of Learning and Teaching P-12 initiative aims to:

* Build consistent, comprehensive and improved pedagogical approaches within and across schools, while still allowing flexibility, innovation and local decision making at the school level
* Focus teaching to meet the diverse needs of students
* Strengthen learning communities within and beyond the school

Each phase of Health Curriculum has incorporated PoLT as a model for planning to cater for the needs of a variety of classrooms (resources, students and teachers). Each stage of the unit provides a range of activities that could be used to enhance the learning opportunities, challenge or extend students and provide a range of pathways to suit the needs of individual learners.