



Northern School for Autism

"Learning for Life"

FRAMEWORK FOR IMPROVING STUDENT OUTCOMES (FISO) POLICY

Policy & Guidance

- The Framework for Improving Student Outcomes (FISO):
 - is an evidence-based framework that helps schools lift student outcomes and build system capacity
 - will ensure a common language among schools across the state so that Principals, teachers, students and parents/carers can work together to create better outcomes for students
- FISO encompasses three elements:
 - the FISO Model - provides a common, Victoria-wide language for school improvement and is structured around four state-wide priorities known to have high impact on student outcomes. The Model also includes the FISO Continua of Practice (the Continua) that supports schools to self-evaluate and sustain a climate of continuous improvement. Schools use the Continua to support learning from one another through networks and communities of practice, sharing effective leadership, learning and teaching practices.
 - the FISO [Improvement Cycle](#) which supports teachers, school leadership teams and school improvement teams to focus on better outcomes for our students.
 - the FISO [Improvement Measures](#) which include the Differentiated School Performance Method (DSPM). The Improvement Measures inform the school's ongoing monitoring and evaluation of progress of practice and performance against the goals, targets and key improvement strategies of a school's strategic plan.
- FISO is aligned with and informs all of the elements of school improvement. This includes the:
 - differentiated school review model, including the Pre-review Self-evaluation
 - School Strategic Plan
 - Annual Implementation Plan
 - Annual Report to the School Community
- The state-wide priorities are:
 - [Excellence in teaching and learning](#)
 - [Professional leadership](#)
 - [Positive climate for learning](#)
 - [Community engagement in learning](#)
- Each priority has four dimensions. Six of these dimensions have been identified as high-impact Improvement Initiatives on which to focus effort:
 - [Building practice excellence](#)

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Curriculum planning and assessment
Building leadership teams
Empowering students and building school pride
Setting expectations and promoting inclusion
Building communities

- The improvement measures are a range of data sets across various aspects of schooling that provide schools with a reliable instrument to evaluate and monitor the effect of their self-improvement efforts on student outcomes.
- The measures assist schools in implementing the improvement cycle, providing a common evidence base for schools' self-evaluation, strategic planning, performance and development processes and reviews.
- Allocation of school resources also is guided by the FISO to ensure alignment with the school's identified improvement priorities. This includes equity funding, workforce allocation and professional learning activities; and Department programs, resources and tools.
- Implementation of the FISO at the whole school level is guided by the [Strategic Planning Online Tool \(SPOT\)](#). In addition to integrating all school improvement planning documentation online, SPOT helps schools to regularly monitor the progress of their improvement journey.

- The FISO Continua of Practice

The Continua is a practical school and classroom focused resource to guide continuous school improvement through the FISO Improvement Model. It provides a common language and coherent framework for improvement. It is not a stand-alone document but part of a suite of FISO guides and resources for schools.

The Continua assists school leaders, teachers, students and school community members to:

- self-evaluate their current practice and understand what improved practice looks like
- allocate roles and responsibilities in adopting practices
- identify improvement measures to use in monitoring and evaluating progress
- engage in reflection, inquiry and conversations about improving professional practice

Purpose

- To ensure Northern School for Autism is aware of the requirements for schools to implement the Framework for Improving Student Outcomes

Implementation

- The school notes that FISO is a state-wide reform initiative.
- As deemed applicable, we will systematically plan to develop each priority and reflect this through the School Strategic Plan and Annual Implementation Plan and report to DET and the community through the Annual Report.
- We will use the Improvement Model and Improvement Measures at different stages of the Improvement Cycle.

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- The Improvement Cycle can be used at different levels, from the whole-school to the classroom. It can also be used over different time periods, from four-week cycles to annual cycles.
- The school will utilise the four stages of the Improvement Cycle:
Evaluate and diagnose performance successes and challenges around the key improvement initiatives and strategies
Prioritise and set goals for improvement strategies and initiatives that have the greatest impact on student learning
Develop and plan improvement strategies and initiatives to ensure successful implementation
Implement and monitor selected improvement strategies and initiatives and the impact these have on student learning
- We will ensure all staff are informed about this initiative and participate in related professional learning activities.

Downloadable FISO resources

[Continua of Practice for School Improvement \(PDF\)](#)
[Continua of Practice for School Improvement \(Word\)](#)
[FISO Strategic Enablers for Implementation Guide \(PDF\)](#)
[FISO Strategic Enablers for Implementation Guide \(Word\)](#)
[FISO improvement model and improvement cycle A3 poster \(PDF\)](#)
[Connecting FISO Resources poster \(PDF\)](#)
[Connecting FISO Resources poster \(Word\)](#)

- Please refer also to the school’s *Curriculum Programs Foundation – Year 10 Policy*, *Professional Learning Policy*, and the *Annual Report to the School Community Policy*.

Evaluation

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s three-year review cycle or if guidelines change (latest DET update late January 2021).

A mandatory policy for VRQA purposes
School Council Approval No Longer Required

Reference:

<https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/fiso>

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