

STUDENT WELFARE

POLICY

Rationale:

- This school endeavours to promote a healthy, supportive and secure environment for all children and to raise self-awareness of students to develop strategies to reduce vulnerabilities and increase coping skills.

Aims:

- The school is a positive environment in which all teachers assume responsibility for student welfare, endeavouring to provide successful experiences for all children, where children feel safe and secure in a supportive environment where a sense of belonging and wellbeing are strengthened.
- Children develop positive social behaviours and problem solving skills.
- Staff are confident, skilled and proactive in the management of student welfare issues.
- Communication processes and protocols are clear and well known to ensure the effectiveness of student welfare support.
- All Child Safe procedures and protocols are acknowledged and adhered to.

Implementation:

- Student Welfare is a shared responsibility between school, home and the community.
- The school staff will coordinate student welfare across the school.
- The school will adopt a proactive and strategic stance with issues of student welfare, rather than operating in a consistently reactive mode.
- The school will implement welfare support structures and programs which prioritise and address the identified needs of individual students or the school as a whole and that help implement the aims of the policy.
- The school will endeavour to implement and maintain programs such as: -
 - Buddies
 - Student Awards
 - Life Education
 - 'You Can Do It'
 - eSmart - cyberbullying
 - Programs across the school to develop resilience, social skills, conflict resolution and problem solving e.g.: - Restorative Practices
 - Transition programs.
 - Leadership
- The school will provide the following support structures: -
 - Monitoring of, and responding to, protracted student absences
 - Trauma Management plan
 - Protocol for Mandatory Reporting
 - Student Support Groups for children in need

- Attitudes to School Survey to be completed each year
 - The school will also access outside services to provide support for students and staff which include: -
 - Psychologist for psychological and academic assessment
 - Speech Pathologists
 - Puberty Education to be provided on a two year cycle by the Francis Hewitt Foundation
 - Mentors – providing support for ‘at risk’ children
 - Department of Human Services case managers and support workers
 - Social Workers to provide services such as counselling, social skills and anger management programs.
 - Local parent support groups
 - Relevant DET support staff
 - C.A.S.A. [Centre Against Sexual Assault]
 - School Nurse
 - The school will endeavour to cater for: -
 - Children identified with specific welfare issues by creating support groups, developing appropriate individual programs including goals, monitoring performance and behaviour, and providing ongoing support.
- Individual Learning Plans for students where required.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in...

October 2016