

STUDENT WELFARE POLICY

Rationale:

- This school endeavours to promote a healthy, supportive and secure environment for all children and to raise awareness of what makes students resilient, 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 well-being 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.

Implementation:

- Student Welfare is a shared responsibility between school and home.
- The school will appoint a staff member who will co-ordinate student welfare across the school.
- 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. Refer to Student Support Services.
- The school will endeavour to implement and maintain programs such as:
 - Buddies
 - Student Awards
 - Drug Education
 - Programs across the school to develop resilience, social skills, conflict resolution and problem solving
 - Transition programs.
- The school will provide the following support structures:
 - Monitoring of, and responding to, protracted student absences
 - Protocol for Mandatory Reporting (Refer to Mandatory Reporting Policy)
 - Student Support Group's for children in need
 - Bullying Survey of students and school environment.

- The school will also access outside services to provide support for students and staff which include:
 - Psychologist for psychological and academic assessment
 - Mentors – providing support for ‘at risk’ children
 - Social Workers to provide services such as counselling, social skills and anger management programs.
 - Local parent support groups
 - Relevant Department of Education and Early Childhood support staff
 - 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.

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

2019

Reference: