



STUDENT WELLBEING

Rationale:

The emotional and physical wellbeing of our students is pivotal to their success at school, as adolescents, and in their future lives. Physically and emotionally healthy students are happy, able to deal positively with life's challenges, experience a sense of connectedness with the school and others, and are well placed to develop into well-balanced and successful young adults.

Aims:

- To provide an educational environment which recognises, values and builds student wellbeing.
- To develop students who are physically and emotionally healthy.

Implementation:

- Developing the wellbeing of our students is central to our role as a school, and is reflected in our whole school philosophy.
- Our school will value and encourage student individuality, differences and diversity.
- A culture of positive reinforcement and encouragement will permeate all facets of our school.
- A Student Wellbeing team consisting of staff, parents, students and external agencies will be established to develop and oversee a whole school Student Wellbeing strategy.
- Strategies detailed in the '*Framework for Student Support Services in Victorian Government Schools*' will be implemented across the school. Strategies from the *Effective Schools are Engaging Schools - Student Engagement Policy Guidelines* will be used to promote student engagement, attendance and positive behaviours in our school.
- Programs that provide for the emotional health of students, such as '*Bounceback*' will underpin our curriculum.
- Programs that support a safe environment that encourage open discussion, including protective behaviours, will be covered across the school as part of our Annual Integrated Studies Units.
- The curriculum will be broad, will provide for the needs of individual students, and will be developed to cater for multiple intelligences.
- Programs that support the wellbeing of parents and families will be available.
- The school will provide a trained student welfare counsellor, and will access Department of Education regional and network staff with wellbeing and/or welfare expertise as required.
- Programs dealing with issues such as Drug Education will form part of the school's Student Wellbeing program.
- An active Student Representative Council will form part of the school's decision-making team.
- Staff will be provided with professional development regarding student wellbeing, the implementation of wellbeing programs, and the resolution of wellbeing issues.
- Student work and achievements will be regularly showcased and publicly recognised.

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in..... *July 2014*