



ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

STUDENT WELFARE POLICY

Rationale:

- St. Peter's 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, to build student/school connectedness, and to increase coping skills.
- St. Peter's Primary School maintains a 'culture of child safety' by actively implementing strategies in accordance with its moral & legal obligations and Victorian Government Ministerial Order 870.

Aims:


- St. Peter's 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.

Implementation:

- Student Welfare is a shared responsibility between school, home and the community.
- St. Peter's has appointed a Student Wellbeing Leader who will coordinate student welfare across the school.
- St. Peter's will adopt a proactive and strategic stance with issues of student welfare, rather than operating in a consistently reactive mode.
- St. Peter's 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. All process consider procedural fairness.
- St. Peter's will endeavour to implement and maintain programs such as: -
 - Peer Support
 - Buddies
 - Student Awards
 - Drug Education
 - Committing to a whole school program to develop resilience, social skills, conflict resolution and problem solving e.g. Restorative Practices
 - Berry Street Education Model
 - Transition programs
- St. Peter's will provide the following support structures: -
 - Monitoring of, and responding to, protracted student absences
 - Trauma Management Plan
 - Protocol for Mandatory Reporting
 - Behaviour Hotspot Survey of students and school environment.

- St. Peter’s will also access outside services to provide support for students and staff which include:
 - Psychologist for psychological and academic assessment
 - Department of Health and Human Services case managers and support workers
 - Family First Services
 - Relevant Catholic Education Office support staff
 - C.A.S.A. [Centre Against Sexual Assault]
 - CAMHS – Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service
 - School Nurse
- St. Peter’s 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.
- Longitudinal data will be collected regarding frequency and types of welfare issues, so as to measure the success or otherwise of school-based strategies and approaches.
- St. Peter’s will comply with all privacy issues in accordance with current legislation and Catholic Education Melbourne requirements.
- All external agencies working with children will be asked to provide a Victorian Institute of Teaching Registration if applicable and/or a Working with Children Check.
- A copy of St. Peter’s Policies will be provided to all external agencies.

Evaluation:

St Peter’s Catholic Primary School	System Update: 04/12/2019	
Version 0.2	Date of Next Review: 2020	