

# **WPS – STUDENT WELFARE, CARE & SAFETY POLICY**

**For period:  
March 2014 – March 2017**

## **Rationale:**

- Wandong Primary School seeks to provide quality education for all students, taking account of their age, background, ability and interests. Students are encouraged to become self directed, life long learners who can create a positive future for themselves and for the wider community. For this to occur, Wandong Primary School needs to be place where every student can learn and grow with confidence. Students develop best in schools where teaching and learning occur in a context of student welfare. Schools need to be safe and happy places for students and their teachers. Student welfare is enhanced when all members of the school community participate in the learning programs and life of the school.

## **Definition:**

- The Welfare, Care and Safety Policy encompasses everything the school community does to meet the personal, social, emotional and learning needs of students.

## **Aims:**

- To promote a healthy, supportive and secure environment for all students and raise awareness of what makes a student resilient, to develop strategies to reduce vulnerabilities, to build student/school connectedness, and to increase coping skills.
- To provide an environment that will assist students to learn effectively and to maximise opportunities to succeed.
- To share the responsibility of student welfare between the school, the home and the community.
- To provide a positive environment in which all teachers assume responsibility for student welfare, supported by the Principal, Assistant Principal and Student Welfare Officer.
- To recognise the role that the school plays as a resource to link families with community support services.
- To provide successful experiences for all students, where students feel safe and secure in a supportive environment where a sense of belonging and wellbeing are strengthened.
- To ensure communication processes and protocols are clear and well known to ensure the effectiveness of student welfare support.
- To equip students with skills for life to allow them to become responsible, independent citizens.

## **Implementation:**

Parents and carers are encouraged to support the school in its efforts to maintain a positive learning environment. Wandong Primary School endeavours to support students to develop leadership and decision-making skills, confidence and appropriate assertiveness to work together towards common goals and to celebrate diversity

**The school has considered student welfare, safety and care carefully and has developed a set of policies and procedures in the following areas:**

## **Welfare of Students:**

- Student Welfare
- Behaviour Management
- Positive Behaviours incorporating Bullying and Harassment

- Complaints and Grievances
- Mandatory Reporting
- Student Engagement

#### **Student Safety:**

- On-site Supervision of Students
- Visitors to School (Incursions)
- Supervision of Students Off-site (Camps & Excursions)
- Emergency Management Plan
- Critical Incident Plan
- Accident and Incident Register
- Internet Use
- Working with Children's Check

#### **Student Care:**

- Arrangements for Ill Students
- Administration of Medication
- First Aid
- Attendance (Refer to Student Engagement Policy)

#### **The Student Welfare Policy will be implemented by ensuring:**

- The policy is clearly communicated to students, staff, parents and carers.
- The School appoints a staff member who will coordinate student welfare across the school.
- The School adopts a proactive and strategic stance with issues of student welfare, rather than operating in a consistently reactive mode.
- Each class develops a Code of Cooperation, Positive and Negative consequences in consultation with the students that is consistent with this policy and all other policies relating to student welfare.
- The School will endeavour to cater for students identified with specific welfare issues by creating support groups, developing appropriate individual programs including goals, monitoring performance and behaviour, and providing ongoing support.
- The School implements 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 also access outside services to provide support for students and staff when required, which may include:
  - Psychologist for psychological and academic assessment
  - Speech or Occupational Therapists
  - Department of Human Services case managers and support workers
  - Social Workers to provide services such as counselling, social skills and anger management programs
  - School Nurse
- The School will implement and maintain programs such as:
  - Individual Learning Plans
  - TEAM Program
  - Buddies
  - Lunchtime Clubs Program
  - Student Awards
  - Think Links
  - Leadership Opportunities
  - Health Education
  - Committing to a whole school program to develop resilience, social skills, conflict resolution and problem solving eg: Kids Matter

- Transition programs Kinder to Foundation, Grade 6 to Year 7 and across level transition
- Student Support Groups for children in need.

**Evaluation:**

- This policy will be reviewed every three years as part of the Wandong Primary School cyclic policy review.

**CERTIFICATION**

- This policy was adopted at the School Council meeting held at Wandong Primary School on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of March 2014.
- Signed: School Council President
- Signed: School Principal