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Cranbourne West Primary School No. 5189

STUDENT WELFARE POLICY

RATIONALE:

At Cranbourne West Primary School we promote a healthy, supportive and secure learning environment in which all students' sense of belonging and well being is valued and enhanced. Through the implementation of sound well being practices and programs, the school endeavours to build in each student the strategies, problem solving skills and resilience required to assist the individual in dealing with life's challenges. This policy is to be viewed in conjunction with the Student Engagement Policy.

GENERAL STATEMENT:

Cranbourne West Primary School continues to maintain a positive environment which endeavours to provide successful experiences for all students. Cranbourne West Primary School believes student welfare is a shared responsibility between home, school and the community. The school, however, acknowledges that individual students may be influenced or affected by factors outside the school's control.

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES:

Cranbourne West Primary School will:

- aim to promote positive social behaviour through a proactive rather than reactive approach to student welfare issues.
- provide relevant professional development to ensure all staff are confident, skilled and proactive in the management of student welfare issues.
- employ a full time Student Welfare Co-ordinator who manages and administers student welfare throughout the school.
- implement communication processes and protocols which are clear, relevant and user friendly to ensure the effectiveness of the student welfare program.
- continue to implement support structures and programs which prioritise and address the identified needs of the individual student or the school as a whole.
- access appropriate outside services to provide support for students and staff including Psychologists, Social Workers and the Department of Human Services.
- provide relevant support structures such as Mandatory Reporting protocols and Bullying and Harassment policies.
- monitor, and respond appropriately to prolong student absences.
- arrange programs and groups that address social competency and anger management issues, student transition, drug education, Buddies and student awards.
- ensure the discipline of students is based on the principles of fairness and that corporal punishment is not permitted
- provide professional development to staff of the Restorative Process which is to be used when addressing student conflict
- react accordingly to annual Student Survey results.
- collect and collate data regarding frequency and types of welfare issues in order to measure the success of school based strategies and approaches.

The following protocols apply for students who change grades throughout the year:

- the Student Welfare Officer will fill out the change of grade form for the office staff before the student actually changes grades
- the Student Welfare Officer will then hand the form to the appropriate office staff member so that the relevant data may be amended
- relevant information will be shared verbally between the previous classroom teacher, the new classroom teacher and the Student Welfare Officer prior to the student

changing rooms. All important information regarding health issues, allergies, custody details will be discussed at the handover meeting

- the Student Welfare Officer will take the student together with the student's file to the new classroom teacher. Teachers are responsible for reading all the information contained in the file]

EVALUATION:

This policy to be read in conjunction with the DEECD School Policy and Advisory Guide – Governance – Student Safety.

www.education.vic.gov.au/management/governance/spag/default.htm

This policy will be reviewed on a cyclic basis.