



Wellbeing and Learning

Rationale

- As young people are better prepared for learning when they are healthy, safe and happy, young people's welfare is the responsibility of all staff working in a whole school context. Learning cannot be separated from wellbeing.
- Helping young people to learn effectively and to develop positive attitudes and behaviours are goals that have long been shared by teachers, support services staff and parents/carers. It requires that each young person is educated in an environment which provides for their individual development.

Purpose

- To ensure Essendon Keilor College promotes student wellbeing in all learning experiences by:
 - providing an environment and curriculum that support students to develop knowledge, understanding and skills to manage their own health and wellbeing and to support that of others
 - aligning student welfare and curriculum policies.
- To further empower young people who are key stakeholders within our college.
- To ensure the school has in place strategies to enhance compliance with the Child Safe Standards 1, 2, 4, 6 and 7.

Definitions

Our School-wide Positive Behaviour Framework (Respect – Engage – Aspire – Learn: REAL) is an evidence-based framework for preventing and responding to young people's behaviour. It aims to create a positive school climate, a culture of competence and an open, responsive management system for all school community members. It includes analysis of data in professional learning teams, implementation of evidence based practices and organisational systems for establishing safe, purposeful and inclusive school and classroom learning environments while providing the individual behaviour and learning supports needed to achieve academic and social success for all young people.

Restorative practice was developed in the justice system as an approach to dealing with offending behaviour that focused on offenders taking responsibility for their behaviour and taking action to repair the harm they caused. In schools, restorative practice is used as a strategy for maintaining healthy relationships and to repair relationships that have been damaged. It may be applied at a whole-school or classroom level and in responding to challenging behaviour or bullying by individual students.

Implementation

- The wellbeing of every child at the school is our highest priority.
- The school will promote student wellbeing in all learning experiences by:
 - providing an environment and curriculum that support students to develop knowledge, understanding and skills to manage their own health and wellbeing and to support that of others
 - aligning student welfare and curriculum policies.
- The school will:
 - provide an integrated and comprehensive curriculum approach that incorporates equitable opportunities for all students to enhance their own and others' wellbeing through their daily learning experiences
 - provide a curriculum that supports students to develop knowledge, understanding and skills that enables them to engage critically with a range of health and wellbeing areas and issues
 - identify areas where focused support or intervention is required to:
 - improve each child's learning and development
 - provide a curriculum that enables students to progress along the continuum of the Victorian Curriculum F-10 achievement standards, including the Towards Foundation Curriculum 'Levels A-D'.

- The school recognises that healthy development and education is a shared responsibility, with families, learners, and DET and other services all playing a role. Health and wellbeing is an important outcome in its own right, but it is also a precondition for learning and employment, and is an indicator of successful education.
- The school acknowledges that the five dimensions of health and wellbeing contribute to the development of the 'whole' person. These dimensions are:
 - Learning development and skills – including active participation and engagement in learning, having the functional skills to participate meaningfully in all aspects of one's life
 - Social and emotional wellbeing – including positive mental health, self-awareness, resilience, interpreting the world positively and pro-social values and behaviour
 - Supportive relationships – including positive family bonds, friendships, experiencing a sense of belonging and being engaged in age-appropriate learning and activity
 - Physical health – including absence of health problems, oral health, nutrition, weight and self-management including sleeping
 - Safety and material wellbeing – including a sense of safety at home and where young people play and learn, being safe from injury and harm, having access to daily essentials and adequate and stable housing
- The school will:
 - provide a safe, inclusive and supportive environment that promote health, wellbeing, learning and development
 - build caring and supportive relationships with young people and their families
 - ensure young people and families are consulted about matters that impact on them and their voices inform policies and activities that contribute to health and wellbeing
 - support staff to protect and promote the health and wellbeing of our young people, ensuring that staff act with integrity when dealing with those in their care and
 - build partnerships with health and wellbeing services and other relevant community services
- The school will adopt the School-wide Positive Behaviour Framework (Respect – Engage – Aspire – Learn: REAL) program which aims to create a positive school climate, a culture of competence and an open, responsive management system for all school community members.
- The school will also use restorative practice as an approach to dealing with offending behaviour.
- The school will consider Bully Stoppers, DET's online resource dedicated to bullying prevention, The National Safe Schools Framework, the Healthy Together Achievement Program, Kids Matter and Mind Matters as possible resources to promote healthy relationships. For details, please refer to the second website below.
- The school will maintain the roles of Student Welfare Co-ordinator, Child Safe Officer to promote the whole school approach to health and wellbeing within the school community and work in collaboration with *young people* and parents/carers, school staff including the Principal, teachers, aides, specialist staff, support services officers and with broader community agencies.
- Please refer also to the school's *Curriculum Framework Policy*, *Student Engagement Policy*, *the Student Welfare Policy*, the *Bullying & Harassment Policy* and the Child Safe Standards.

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle or if guidelines change (latest DET update early July 2017).

Reference:

www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/curriculum/pages/wellbeing.aspx