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STUDENT WELFARE POLICY

Rationale:

- This school 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.

Aims:

- The school 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.
- The school will appoint a staff member who will coordinate student welfare across the school.
- The school will adopt a proactive and strategic stance with issues of student welfare, rather than operating in a consistently reactive mode.
- The school 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.
- The school will endeavour to implement and maintain programs such as: -
 - Tribes
 - Solving the Jigsaw
 - You Can Do It
 - Student Awards
 - Drug Education/Life Education

- Committing to a whole school program to develop resilience, social skills, conflict resolution and problem solving eg: - ‘You Can Do It, MindMatters or Tribes’
- Transition programs
- The school will provide the following support structures: -
 - Monitoring of, and responding to, protracted student absences
 - Trauma Management plan
 - Protocol for Mandatory Reporting
 - Student Support Group’s for children in need

The school will also access outside services to provide support for students and staff which include: -

- Psychologist for psychological and academic assessment
- Department of Human Services case managers and support workers
- Social Workers to provide services such as counselling, social skills and anger management programs
- Youth agencies
- Relevant DE&T support staff
- C.A.S.A. [Centre Against Sexual Assault]
- School Nurse
- The school 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.
- Our school will comply with all privacy issues in accordance with current legislation and departmental requirements – see separate Privacy policy.

Approved by School Council – October 2019

To be reviewed – 2020

Signed: _____

Date: _____