

Flemington Primary School

Student Engagement and Inclusion Policy



1. PURPOSE AND RATIONALE:

Every child has the right to receive a quality education. Flemington Primary School aims to recognise the diversity of the School community and deliver teaching and learning; educational and extra-curricular activities; facilities; student services and community linkages, which are inclusive and responsive to all student needs.

2. POLICY STATEMENT:

All students are encouraged to reach their full potential through developing high expectations of themselves; respect for themselves and others; and by reflecting on, appreciating and learning from individual differences. Students are encouraged to participate in all activities by gaining a sense of belonging and ownership of their learning. As a part of this, the School encourages families to engage in their child's learning and build their child's capacity to be active learners.

3. DEFINITIONS:

- **Alternative Learning Environment** - means an alternative learning arrangement within the school.
- **Student Support Group Meeting** - means a meeting set up between parents/carers and/or relevant DET support staff or outside agencies to discuss how the school can assist the student.

4. ACTION GUIDELINES:

Students are expected to:

- Support each other's learning by behaving in a way that demonstrates the Flemington Primary School values;
- Have high expectations that they can learn;
- Be considerate of and supportive of others;
- Demonstrate behaviour and attitudes that support the wellbeing and learning for all;
- Contribute to a positive school environment that is safe, inclusive and happy;
- Attend school regularly; and
- Understand that bullying (including cyber-bullying, violence, property damage, inappropriate language and disrupting the learning) of other students is unacceptable.

Parents/carers are expected to:

- Support the School's efforts to educate young people to live in a diverse world by promoting an understanding and appreciation of diversity;
- Help the School to provide student-centred responses by providing all relevant information to the school;

- Actively participate in supporting their child's learning by building a positive relationship with the School through attendance at school activities and use of the student's diary; and
- Work with the School to promote a consistent approach that supports their child's learning, engagement and endeavour both in and out of school.

Parents/carers will notify the School if their child is absent due to illness or any other reason. Should an illness be of a protracted nature, parents must inform the school, providing a medical certificate where this illness continues beyond one week.

Teachers at the School will:

- Develop a shared responsibility for all students;
- Develop flexible pedagogical styles to engage different learners;
- Deliver curriculum and assessment that challenges and extends student learning;
- Develop positive and meaningful relationships with students that promote engagement, wellbeing and learning;
- Provide opportunities for students to contribute to a positive school culture in and outside the classroom; and
- Teachers will mark the role at the beginning of the morning and afternoon sessions, notifying the office of absences.

The School leadership team will:

- Ensure the School complies with its duty of care obligations to each student as well as its obligations under the Equal Opportunity and Human Rights legislation; and
- Work in partnership with the School community to develop policies and procedures consistent with the school values and aspirations and the Department of Education & Training Guidelines.

Under no circumstances will any form of corporal punishment be used or tolerated at the School.

5. MONITORING, REPORTING AND REVIEW:

It is the desire of the School that all students are positively involved in their learning. However when, for whatever reason, this is not occurring, the school will as a first step seek the involvement of Parents/carers to try and remedy the problem. It is expected that Parents/carers are prepared to meet with and work with the School to achieve the most favourable outcome for the student.

Where a student continues to be disengaged with their learning, a range of strategies and responses will be utilised. These may include:

- Discussing the reasons for disengagement and reaching an agreement for future behaviour;
- Explicit teaching of appropriate behaviours;
- Monitoring and providing feedback;
- Reflection by allowing students an opportunity and place to settle their own emotions;
- Provision of an Alternative Learning Environment;
- Counselling for individuals, staff and Parents/carers to assist with managing serious issues; and
- Holding a Student Support Group Meeting.

Attendance will be monitored by the School using the Compass system. Any discrepancies regarding attendance patterns will be acted on and Parents/carers informed.

6. RELATED POLICIES:

- Bullying and Harassment Policy
- Attendance Policy

7. REFERENCES:

- Related legislation and regulations Education and Training Reform Act 2006 (the Act), Education and Training Reform Regulations 2017.
- Equal Opportunity Act 2010 (Vic)
- School Policy Advisory Guide, Student Engagement
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/participation/pages/engagement.aspx>

8. REVISION HISTORY:

This policy was ratified by School Council in on November 27th, 2017.

It will be reviewed as determined by School Council or every 3 years.