

Myrtleford P12 College



Student Welfare Policy

Rationale/Beliefs:

The P12 College has a responsibility to promote a healthy, supportive and secure environment for students, with targeted support for students at risk.

Aims:

1. Student welfare is a shared responsibility between school, home and the community.
2. School should be a positive environment in which all teachers assume responsibility for student welfare and each student is provided with success experiences.
3. All students should have access to welfare and support services as required.
4. Clear, well known communication processes and protocols are critical to the effectiveness of student welfare support.

Implementation:

1. Parents, staff and relevant community members will be consulted in the development, implementation and regular review of this policy.
2. The school shall implement welfare support structures and programs which prioritise and address the identified needs of students.

The stages at which support may be provided are:

- *Primary Prevention:* programs which develop resilience, through enhanced life skills and protective factors.
- *Early Intervention:* strategies and processes which assess and manage individuals and groups identified as high risk.
- *Intervention:* provision of crisis support for individuals with clear suicide behaviours.
- *Post Intervention:* implement a response plan. This plan shall be reviewed annually and include responsibilities of coordinating personnel and other staff; procedures for contacting and dealing with outside agencies; debriefing arrangements for affected personnel; and plan review arrangements.

It is imperative to respect confidentiality when dealing with student welfare issues.

3. Welfare programs and student service provision will be supported by appropriate resourcing for teachers to enable:
 - Employment of services to conduct support programs which focus on addressing student welfare issues
 - Individual and group student counselling
 - Skill development for students, teachers and parents
4. Where a decision needs to be made regarding the appropriate nature of curriculum content for the teaching and learning of issues which may relate to “student at risk behaviours” it shall be referred to the Principal.
5. For school based case management of known students, a structure shall provide for continuity of care through a process of coordination with other agencies, transfer to other schools and transition. The school will use an intake model of collaborative decisions re appropriate support for individual students and families

Basis of Discretion:

Supporting Documents:

Initiated: February 2013

Previous Reviews:

Last Ratified: March 2014

Reviewed: 1 2 3 yearly **Next Review:** Mar 2016 **Responsibility:**
Welfare Team