



## Natte Yallock P.S. – No 1347

# Student Welfare Policy and Procedures

## Rationale

The Natte Yallock Primary School is committed to valuing the dignity of every member of our community. Staff lead by example, demonstrating that all students are equally valued and providing them with the support and respect they need to succeed and develop confidence. This assists the school to create an atmosphere of trust, respect and concern for others. We foster a sense of community and belonging through cross age and whole school learning and during most of school activities such as excursions and camps.

## Principles

- This school promotes a healthy, supportive and secure environment for all students and raises the awareness of what makes students resilient, to develop strategies to reduce vulnerabilities, to build student/school connectedness, and to increase coping skills.
- Provision of this environment will assist students to learn effectively and to maximise opportunities to succeed.
- Student welfare is a shared responsibility between school, home and the community.
- The school provides a positive environment in which all teachers assume responsibility for student welfare.
- Staff endeavour to provide successful experiences for all students, where students feel safe and secure in a supportive environment where a sense of belonging and wellbeing are strengthened.

## Goals

- 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.
- Promote a happy and safe learning environment that meets the needs of all students.
- Help students develop a positive self image.
- Maximise opportunities for all students to succeed.
- Provide students with a secure environment to allow them to take risks, meet challenges and develop confidence.
- Equip students with skills for life to allow them to become responsible, independent citizens.

## Strategies

Parents and carers are encouraged to support the school in its efforts to maintain a positive learning environment. We endeavour to support students to develop leadership and decision-making skills, confidence and appropriate assertiveness to work together towards common goals and to celebrate diversity.

The school has considered student welfare, safety and care carefully and has developed a set of policies and procedures and documents in the following areas:

### Student Welfare

- Student Welfare
- Behaviour Management
- Bullying and Harassment
- Complaints and Grievances
- Mandatory Reporting
- Privacy

### Student Safety

- On-site Supervision of Students
- Supervision of Students Off-site
- Safety and Welfare of Students learning with an External Provider
- Emergency Management Plan
- Critical Incident Plan
- Accident and Incident Register
- Internet Use

### Student Care

- Arrangements for Ill Students
- Administration of Medication
- Attendance

The Student Welfare Policy will be implemented by ensuring:

- the policy is clearly communicated to students, staff, parents and carers.
- the School appoints a staff member to be the Student Welfare Officer and take responsibility for welfare issues across the school
- the School adopts a proactive and strategic stance with issues of student welfare, rather

than operating in a consistently reactive mode.

- the school will endeavour to cater for students identified with specific welfare issues by creating support groups, developing appropriate individual programs including goals, monitoring performance and behaviour, and providing ongoing support.
- 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 also access outside services to provide support for students and staff when required, which may 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
  - C.A.S.A. [Centre Against Sexual Assault]
  - School Nurse
- the School will implement and maintain programs such as:
  - Student Awards
  - eSmart
  - transition programs
  - Student Support Groups for children in need
- our School will comply with all privacy issues in accordance with current legislation requirements (refer to Privacy Policy).

## Communication

Student welfare policies will be communicated to the school community in the following ways:

- Teachers will be oriented to all student welfare, safety and care policies at commencement of employment
- Teachers will be provided with opportunities for professional learning in the areas of student welfare.
- Regular information regarding student welfare policies and parenting skills will be provided to families in the newsletter.

Amended and ratified by School Council 2018