

Student Engagement & Inclusion Policy

Policy Statement

Wilandra Rise Primary School has a Duty of Care to all students and will take reasonable measures to protect them from risks, both physical and psychological, that could reasonably have been foreseen. Greater measures will be taken for younger students or students with disabilities.

Wilandra Rise Primary School is committed to providing a safe, respectful and inclusive learning environment. One where students have opportunities to engage in quality learning experiences and acquire the values of respect and responsibility to prepare them to be active citizens for the 21st century who respect themselves and others and are lifelong learners.

This policy should be read in conjunction with, and referenced to, Child Safe Standards which can be accessed here: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/health/Pages/childsafe.aspx>

In the normal events of school life all members of the school community are expected to respect the following rights of all:

- people to be treated with respect
- students to learn
- teachers to learn and teach
- to be safe

Rationale

Rights and responsibilities

It is the right of all members of the school community to experience a safe, pleasant and supportive learning and teaching environment. Staff, students and parents/carers have the right to be treated with respect, and enjoy an environment free from bullying (including cyber bullying), harassment, violence, discrimination or intimidation.

Teachers also have the right to be informed, within Privacy requirements, about matters relating to students that may impact on their teaching and learning for that student.

Students have a responsibility to contribute positively to the educational experience for themselves and other students, to participate fully in the school's educational program, and to ensure that their behaviours demonstrate respect for themselves, their peers, their teachers and all other members of the school community.

Parents/carers have a responsibility to take an active interest in their child's educational progress, model and reinforce positive behaviours and ensure their child's regular attendance. They have a responsibility to support the school in maintaining a safe and respectful learning environment for all students, and engage in regular and constructive communication with school staff regarding their child's learning.

Teachers have a responsibility to demonstrate the standards set by the Victorian Institute of Teaching. That is, to know how students learn and how to teach them effectively, know the content they teach, know their students, plan and assess for effective learning, create and maintain safe and challenging learning environments, and use a range of strategies to engage students in effective learning.

All members have an obligation to ensure school property is appropriately used and maintained.

Implementation

All teachers including specialists will develop classroom agreements at the beginning of the year outlining expectations and consequences. These agreements will be displayed in the room and a copy sent home to parents. A copy of the Student Behaviour Code is also sent home at the beginning of each year. This policy is made available to the school community on the school's website.

The school uses Restorative Practices wherever possible.

To maintain procedural fairness, the Restorative Justice model will ensure that:

- All complainants will be provided with a hearing.
- That all matters remain confidential to the parties involved
- That written documentation will be collated and recorded for future reference
- All parties will be advised of the outcome and any appeal options that they may wish to pursue

School Action and Consequences

- Corporal punishment is prohibited in all Victorian schools. Corporal punishment must NOT be used at the School under any circumstances.
- Student engagement, regular attendance and positive behaviours will be supported through relationship based whole-school classroom practices, including targeted and individualised support when required. School Leadership will determine a parental consultation where appropriate.
- Broader support strategies will include:
 - Involving support staff including Educational Psychologist, Social Worker, Student Welfare Officer and outside agencies where appropriate
 - Mentoring and /or counselling
 - Convening student support group meetings
 - Developing individualised learning, behaviour or attendance plans
- Contact with the Regional Office

Discipline Procedures – suspension and expulsion

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A student may be excluded from school in situations where all other measures have been implemented without success, or where an immediate suspension is the only appropriate course of action in response to the student's behaviour which may put the health, safety and well-being of other students, staff or themselves at significant risk.

Rights and Responsibilities

Students

Students have the right to:	Students have the responsibility to:
Learn in a purposeful and supportive environment	Display respectful and courteous behaviour
Work and play in a safe and secure environment	Ensure their behaviour is not disruptive of the learning of others
Respect, Courtesy and honesty	Ensure they are punctual, polite, prepared and display a positive manner
Interact with others in an atmosphere free from harassment and bullying	Behave in a way that protects the safety and wellbeing of others
	Endeavour to do their best
	Take responsibility for their own behaviour
	Abide by behaviour agreements

Staff

Staff have the right to:	Staff have the responsibility to:
Respect, Courtesy	Model respectful and courteous behaviour
Teach in a safe and secure environment	Ensure the school environment is safe and secure
Teach in a purposeful and non-disruptive environment	Establish positive relationships with students
Be the first point of contact if there is an issue or concern with one of their students	Act professionally
Recognised as a professional	Promote positive attitudes to learning
Be supported by the school community	Develop helpful communication links with the school community

Parents/Carers

Parents/Carers have the right to:	Parents/Carers have the responsibility to:
Respect, Courtesy	Model respectful and courteous behaviour
Be informed about their child's progress or any concerns for their child	Support the school in implementing behaviour management strategies

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Cooperation and support from staff in matters relating to their child's education	Support the school to provide a meaningful education for their child
Be a partner in their child's education Be informed of issues affecting their child	Inform the school about anything that may impact on their child's learning
	Develop helpful communication lines as partners in your child education
	Keep abreast of activities happening at school by accessing the school's newsletter/newsfeed
	Approach the school (not other parents or students) with concerns regarding their child's welfare

This policy should be read in conjunction with Wilandra Rise Primary School Philosophy, Vision & Mission Statement which can be found on our website when it becomes active as well as the DET Student Engagement & Wellbeing policy which can be found at

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/participation/Pages/studentengagementguidance.aspx>

Evaluation

To be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review process.