STUDENT WELFARE POLICY

PURPOSE:

- Baden Powell College P – 9 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 and increase coping skills.

GOALS:

- Our college is a positive environment in which all teachers assume responsibility for student welfare. We endeavour to provide successful experiences for all children, where children feel safe and secure in a supportive environment and 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.

GUIDELINES:

- Student Welfare is a shared responsibility between college, home and the community.
- A team will be appointed who will coordinate student welfare across the college.
- A consistent proactive and strategic stance with issues of student welfare.
- The college community will implement welfare support structures and programs which prioritise and address the identified needs of individual students or the college as a whole and that help implement the aims of the policy.
- We will endeavour to implement and maintain programs such as:
  - Seasons Program
  - Peer Mediation
  - Buddies
  - Restorative Practices
  - Student Awards
  - Drug Education
  - Transition Programs
  - Programs across the college to develop resilience, social skills, conflict resolution and problem solving e.g. FIST (Feeling is Thinking), STOP LOOK LISTEN, CASEA, School Wide Positive Behaviours Program
The college 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
- Bullying Survey of students and college environment

The college will also access outside services to provide support for students and staff which include:
- Western English Language School
- Psychologist for psychological and academic assessment
- Mentors – providing support for “at risk” children
- Department of Human Services case managers and support workers
- Social Workers to provide services such as counselling social skills and anger management programs
- Local parent support groups
- Relevant Department of Education and Early Childhood Support staff
- School Nurse
- Occupational Therapist, Royal Children’s Hospital, Speech Therapist

The college 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.
- Longitudinal data will be collected regarding frequency and types of welfare issues, so as to measure the success or otherwise of college-based strategies and approaches.

**EVALUATION:**

This policy will be reviewed at the end of 2015. Students, staff and parents will be encouraged to provide input in the review process.