

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.