

WARRAGUL REGIONAL COLLEGE

STUDENT WELLBEING POLICY

(Including Student Code of Conduct)

November 2016

COLLEGE VALUES

Warragul Regional College has four core values: Community: We take care of each other, Achievement: We strive for excellence, Respect: We respect people and property and Effort: We work hard. We expect all members of our learning community to demonstrate these values everywhere and all of the time.

The College is a leading school in this state in implementing a safe collaborative and inclusive environment with student having a strong sense of belonging, identity, self-worth and voice. Underpinning this commitment is School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) and membership of the Safe School's Coalition. These initiatives promote health, wellbeing and social inclusion for every member of the Warragul Regional College community. Warragul Regional College has a zero tolerance for child abuse.

PURPOSE

- To provide a safe, positive and caring learning environment where the rights of all individuals are respected.
- To encourage and support the development of responsible self-management.
- To establish and support a strong home and school partnership for behaviours that promote learning.
- To provide clear guidance and expectations to staff, students and parents on matters related to school behaviour management and in so doing, provide the school with a positive sense of direction.

RATIONALE

At **Warragul Regional College**, student wellbeing involves all members of the school community ~ staff, students and parents. Warragul Regional College aims to create a safe and supportive environment for learning, and behaviours that reinforce our school community values. The school believes that community values of mutual respect, courtesy, honesty, sensitivity, and support help to build relationships and promote the wellbeing of all members of the school community. A positive approach to behaviour is desirable in order to foster a climate where personal responsibility and self-discipline can develop.

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Statement of Commitment

The college is a leading school in Victoria in implementing a safe, collaborative and inclusive environment with students having a strong sense of belonging, identity, self-worth and voice. Underpinning this commitment is School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) and our proud membership of the Safe Schools Coalition. Warragul Regional College constantly strives to uphold the highest child safety standards. These initiatives promote health, wellbeing and social inclusion for every member of the Warragul Regional College community.

PRINCIPLES

- All individuals are to be valued and treated with respect.
- All individuals have a right to work in a secure and safe environment where they are able to fully achieve their potential.
- Students have a right to learn in a co-operative environment free from disruption.
- Parents/Carers have a right to expect that their children will be educated in an environment of care, courtesy and respect for the rights of others.
- Parents/Carers have a responsibility to support the school in its efforts to maintain a positive learning environment.
- Principals and staff have an obligation to reasonably, consistently and fairly implement the consequences of breaching the Student Code of Conduct.

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IMPLEMENTATION

The Principal will:

- Ensure all teachers have and implement a classroom behaviour management plan consistently.
- Support teachers with implementing their classroom behaviour plans.
- Ensure that all behaviour plans are disseminated to the school community.
- Ensure that Individual Learning Plans (ILPs) are in place for students with identified learning needs.
- Seek support from student welfare professionals (SSSOs)
- Ensure that suspensions and exclusions are viewed as actions of last resort.

All teachers will:

- Share the responsibility of implementing this policy across the whole school
- Develop and maintain a set of classroom expectations, routines and procedures that fosters our school community values as underpinned by School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS)
- Role model student behaviour expectations, and school values with their class
- Use a variety of strategies for affirming positive behaviour, and these should be applied with the same fairness and in the same consequential manner, as the measures taken for negative behaviour.
- Recognise those members of the school community whose behaviour promotes a positive and caring school environment and celebrate positive achievements across the school with rewards, at assembly, in the newsletter, media, in displays etc.
- Provide specific programs which develop good relationships between members of the school community
- Regularly inform students of their rights and responsibilities, school and classroom goals and rules, positive and negative consequences as they apply to behaviour
- Adopt a consistent sequential approach when dealing with negative behaviour in the classroom, playground, excursions, camps and at sporting events using the principles of Restorative Justice
- Record inappropriate student behaviour in the College's learning management system and action taken in response to incidents in the classroom and playground
- Provide support to administration during parent interviews

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- Seek professional development which addresses welfare issues across the school.
- Communicate with parents not only when problems arise, but also to pass on positive information about students

All staff will:

- Adhere to the school's child safe policy and uphold the school's statement of commitment to child safety at all times
- Take all reasonable steps to protect students from abuse
- Listen and respond to the views and concerns of students, particularly if they are telling you that they, or another student, have been abused
- Report any allegations of child abuse to the school's leadership
- Promote the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and culturally diverse background students
- Ensure, as far as practicable, that adults are not alone with students

All staff will not:

- Initiate unnecessary physical contact with students
- Ignore or disregard any suspected or disclosed child abuse
- Develop any special relationships with children that could be seen as favouritism
- Put students at risk of abuse
- Use inappropriate language with students
- Express personal views on cultures, race or sexuality in the presence of students
- Work with students whilst under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs

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STUDENT BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS

At Warragul Regional College, Student Behaviour Expectations will be implemented in accordance with the Department of Education and Early Childhood guidelines. A series of consequences that emphasise the importance of self-control and responsibility and ownership of one's behaviour will be implemented.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS

Students will be expected to:

- Settle down to work and produce a standard of work appropriate to their ability
- Complete set tasks including homework
- Follow directions the first time they are given
- Speak politely to teachers, other students and parents
- Behave and play in such a way that ensures the safety of everyone
- Behave and play in a way that is sensitive to the rights and feelings of everyone
- Return to class punctually following recess and lunch breaks
- Treat their own, others' and the school's belongings with respect

Please Note: *Each class will develop a set of positive rewards and consequences to reinforce the shared beliefs and promote appropriate behaviour.*

SCHOOL YARD BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS

Students will be expected to:

- Play in the correct area
- Play in a way that ensures the safety of other students and self
- Play in a way that is inclusive of the rights and feelings of others
- Follow directions from yard duty teachers the first time they are given
- Keep hands, feet and objects to oneself
- Use appropriate language
- Use and care for school sports equipment appropriately.
- Climb only on play equipment
- Behave appropriately in student toilets
- Place litter in bins

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Parents will be contacted in cases where problems develop with student behaviour and strategies will be developed to address issues arising. These may include regular home-school communication through the College's learning management system, support group meetings or an individual Behaviour Management Plan. Parents will be involved in this process.

SEVERELY INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR

In cases of severely inappropriate behaviour, consequences such as In-School Withdrawal or Formal School Suspension may result. Severe consequences may result from:

- Incidents of serious bullying including exclusion, intimidation, put downs threats and interfering with others' belongings including theft and wilful damage
- Physical interference with other students including fighting incidents, throwing sticks, rocks or other inappropriate objects
- Refusing to follow directions
- Using inappropriate language and comments towards teachers, parents or other students
- Other behaviour that threatens the smooth running of the school.

In such cases, parents will be contacted. A meeting will be held with all concerned parties to resolve the issue and put strategies in place to avoid repeat incidences.

Teachers and the school administration will communicate with parents not only when problems arise, but also to pass on positive comments about students. Teachers have spent time discussing these expectations with students to assist in their understanding of what they mean in terms of behaviours.