CRAIGIEBURN PRIMARY SCHOOL

STUDENT WELFARE POLICY

Rationale:

Our school’s major focus is ensuring that the welfare of our students is paramount in any decisions made. This school endeavours to promote a healthy, supportive and secure environment for all students and to raise awareness of what makes students resilient, to develop strategies to reduce vulnerabilities and increase coping skills.

The Student Code of Conduct includes steps to take with Bullying and Harassment – please refer to the separate Anti Bullying and Harassment Policy.

Students at our school are expected to operate within the guidelines as set out in the Student Welfare and Discipline Policy. This document adheres to DET guidelines, anti-discrimination legislation and mandatory reporting requirements. This code also acknowledges the Racial and Religious Tolerance Act 2001, which supports racial and religious tolerance and prohibits vilification on the grounds of race or religion. Craigieburn Primary School ensures that a procedure of fairness is followed in all Welfare and Discipline actions.

Child safe standard:

Victorian Government Schools are child safe environments. Our school actively promotes the safety and wellbeing of all students, and all school staff are committed to protecting students from abuse or harm in the school environment, in accordance with the legal obligations including child safety standards. Refer to our Child Safety and Code of Conduct Policies.

Aims:

- To provide a safe, happy, secure and caring learning environment so that all children will feel safe and secure, and that all people will be treated with respect.
- To develop the values of integrity, respect, responsibility, co-operation, friendliness and optimism.
- To encourage children to be polite, cooperative and courteous.
- To encourage children to develop pride in themselves, their property, their school and environment.
- To promote a sense of pride and belonging in our school by wearing the compulsory school uniform.
- To implement the school code of conduct fairly, reasonably and consistently, taking into consideration the age and individual differences of the child.
- Craigieburn Primary School ensures that a procedure of fairness is followed in all Welfare and Discipline actions.
- To encourage parents to support the school in its efforts to maintain the most productive teaching and learning environment possible.
- That all children will be responsible for their actions and the consequences.
- That regular attendance and homework completion are encouraged in accordance with DET guidelines.

Implementation:

In the promotion of self-discipline and personal responsibility, we are committed to the following strategies:

- Each class to establish acceptable classroom behaviour at the commencement of each year and promote school values through discussion and curriculum and revise when needed.
- Giving positive reinforcement to improve self-esteem, through positive programs and systems within the grade.
• Recognizing and reinforcing exemplary behaviour with 'student of the week', 'student of the month' and 'sports awards' etc.
• Acknowledging student achievements in the classroom, newsletters and assemblies.
• Encouraging friendships, using the ‘buddy’ system, values and social skills programs.
• Developing respect, trust and acceptance of differences.
• Promoting sharing, tolerance and compassion.
• Requiring children to take responsibility for their actions, using the “Thumps Up Program” and student code of conduct procedures.
• Providing adequate supervision in the school grounds encouraging understanding and awareness of the school rules.
• Enhancing and encouraging parent/teacher contact through three way interviews, school wide activities and events and reports.
• Involving parents and outside agencies when appropriate, such as parent conferences, guidance officer, etc.

**Evaluation:**

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s cyclic process or more often if necessary due to changes in legislation or regulations.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in **Nov 2016** and will be reviewed **2018**.