



STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND WELL-BEING POLICY

BLACKBURN LAKE PRIMARY SCHOOL
Florence Street Blackburn 3130

RATIONALE:

At Blackburn Lake Primary School we support the 'eSmart' framework for the *smart, safe and responsible use of information and communications technology*. At BLPS we are committed to providing a safe, secure and stimulating learning environment for all students. Students can reach their full educational potential only when they are happy, healthy and safe, and when there is a positive school culture to engage and support them in their learning. Our school acknowledges that student wellbeing and student learning outcomes are inextricably linked.

GUIDELINES:

- The school will focus on establishing positive and respectful relationships, particularly between teachers and students, and establishing a learning community that provides multiple and diverse opportunities for students to experience success.
- The school will collaboratively develop and implement a fair and respectful whole-school behaviour management approach (see *Blackburn Lake Primary School Behaviour Management Policy*)
- The school will encourage and provide multiple opportunities for parents/carers and members of the broader community to play an active part in the life of the school and the education of their children.
- The school will promote active student participation and provide students with a sense of ownership of their environment.
- The school will support families to engage in their child's learning and build their capacity as active learners.
- The school will establish social/emotional and educational support for vulnerable students and monitor and evaluate progress.
- The school will have processes in place to identify and respond to individual students who require additional assistance and support.
- The school abides by the Education Training and Reform Act (2006) which prohibits the use of corporal punishment in any Victorian Government school.
- All members of the community are subject to the expectations outlined in appendix 1.

PROGRAM

The school is committed to the delivery of an inclusive curriculum that ensures all our students have access to a quality education to meet their diverse needs. The curriculum programs of the school will recognise and respond to the diverse needs of the school's students by accommodating different learning profiles and rates of learning and intervening early to identify and respond to individual student needs

Student Voice

Blackburn Lake Primary School is committed to student voice and student participation. In doing so, the school values both people and the learning that results when we engage the capacities and multiple voices in the school. Enabling the student voice also realises the leadership potential inherent within all learners. Leadership opportunities are provided to students through the Student School Council, school and house captains, peer mediators and other senior school roles and responsibilities.

Parent/Carer Involvement

Involvement in our school by parents and carers helps children achieve the best possible learning outcomes. Parents and carers will be provided with the opportunity to participate in school life,

formally and informally, through School Council, the Parents' Association, assisting in classrooms, volunteering and staying up to date with school news via the Blackburn Lake Primary School newsletter, website and other online platforms.

The school will support families to engage in their child's learning and build their capacity as active learners. It provides an environment that welcomes all parents/carers and is responsive to them as partners in learning.

The school will create successful partnerships with parents/carers and families by:

- ensuring all parents/carers are aware of the school's Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy and their expected role (**see Appendix 1**);
- conducting effective school-to-home and home-to-school communications through the BLPS newsletter, use of student diaries and email communication;
- providing volunteer opportunities to enable parents/carers and students to contribute;
- involving families with homework and other curriculum-related activities;
- involving families as participants in school decision-making through School Council and Parents' Association;
- providing opportunities to enhance parenting knowledge and skills through Parent Partnerships training sessions and information evenings.

Prevention & Early Intervention Strategies

Implementing preventative and early intervention strategies to support positive behaviours is a key part of the Student Welfare Policy at BLPS. Prevention and early intervention strategies the school will deploy include:

- defining and teaching school-wide and classroom expectations;
- Circle Time as a regular feature of classroom activities in order to build relationships within the classroom;
- Restorative Justice practises used to deal with conflict;
- establishing consistent school-wide and classroom consequences for problem behaviour;
- establishing school-wide and classroom processes for early identification of students experiencing academic and/ or behaviour difficulty;
- providing school-wide and classroom processes for the ongoing collection and use of data for decision-making;
- empowering students by creating multiple opportunities for them to take responsibility and be involved in decision-making;
- providing a physical environment conducive to positive behaviours and effective engagement in learning;
- a whole school transition program at the start of the year – Linking TRRACs

APPENDICES & DOCUMENTS

Appendices related to this policy:

Expectations of Principal, Teachers, Parents/Carers and Students.

Documents related to this policy:

Blackburn Lake Primary School Behaviour Management Policy

Appendix 1

Expectations of the Principal Class

- Provide leadership;
- Ensure staff, students and the school community understand their expectations;
- Support staff and students with the resources and support required to assist them in the process of teaching and learning;
- Ensure that the curriculum of the school caters for the needs of all students, and that the school responds appropriately to students' needs;

- Lead all sections of the school community in working together to provide a positive and engaging learning community.

Expectations of teachers

- Provide a challenging curriculum that provides for different learning styles and rates of learning;
- Provide appropriate intervention in response to student need;
- Encourage student voice, equal opportunity to participate and value student contributions;
- Work with parents and students in developing and striving toward student learning goals;
- Develop the capacity to utilise a range of teaching strategies and resources to provide an engaging learning environment and maintain this capacity through professional development.

Expectations of students

- Develop as individual learners through goal setting and the support of teachers;
- Participate in school programs using positive and appropriate behaviours and the school's agreed values;
- Attend regularly;
- Value school resources.

Expectations of parents/carers

- Take an active interest in their child's educational progress and wellbeing;
- Co-operate with the school and communicate regularly in a constructive manner;
- Ensure their children attend school;
- Promote positive educational attitudes.

EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed within three years.

RATIFIED BY SCHOOL COUNCIL: 12th September, 2017

PRINCIPAL: Loisia Steed SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT: Dan Watts