



## **EXTERNAL PROVIDER POLICY**

### **BLACKBURN LAKE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Florence Street Blackburn 3130

#### **RATIONALE**

The school is a positive environment in which all teachers assume responsibility for student welfare, endeavouring to provide successful experiences for all students, where students feel and are safe and secure in a supportive environment and where a sense of belonging and wellbeing is strengthened.

All students have the right to feel and be safe in the framework of programs offered by Blackburn Lake Primary School, including those offered by external providers.

#### **AIMS**

Blackburn Lake Primary School aims to create and maintain a learning environment that facilitates development of the whole person and to promote a healthy, supportive and secure environment for all students. The school offers programs, in a variety of contexts, to enable students to further their learning by complementing classroom lessons with experts and resources from outside the immediate school community.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION**

The school may access outside services to provide support for students and staff which may include:

- Therapy services generally delivered to individuals, for example psychologists, speech pathologists, occupational therapists, counsellors, social workers
- Programs generally delivered to groups by teachers, mentors and tutors (instrumental, drama, artists, sports professionals etc.).

Blackburn Lake Primary School will ensure regulations relating to VIT registration, Working With Children Check, appropriate qualifications and supervision will be observed. The School Council must approve all external providers of therapies or programs.

Coordination of the external providers will rest with the Principal / Assistant Principal or delegate.

- All external providers must meet all regulatory requirements, including Child Safety standards, and where applicable have the necessary professional qualifications and registrations.
- Students will attend programs or therapy offered by external providers only with the express prior written consent of their parents.

A teacher must be present at all times and cannot delegate duty of care responsibility'.

#### **GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR EXTERNAL PROVIDERS**

The following guideline / checklist is to be considered by the school when utilising external providers.

External providers approved / accepted by the School Council will:

- Be appropriately qualified, trained and registered for their specific activity
- Evaluate their programs or presentations
- Be cost effective
- Enhance the role of the teacher, not replace it
- Be consistent with school policies
- Align with current practice, principles and research when appropriate
- Provide a public liability insurance certificate

Adhere to Child Safety Standards

## **EVALUATION**

This policy will be reviewed within three years.

**RATIFIED BY SCHOOL COUNCIL: 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2017**

**PRINCIPAL: Loisia Steed SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT: Dan Watts**

## **Relevant Documents & Links**

Links which are connected with this policy are:

- BLPS Child Safe Policy
- BLPS Child Safe Environment Policy
- BLPS Curriculum Policy
- BLPS School Philosophy
- BLPS Duty of Care Policy
- BLPS Mandatory Reporting Policy