# BEECHWORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL



Believe - Persist - Succeed

## **Beechworth Primary School**

# Student Wellbeing Policy

#### **Purpose**

At Beechworth Primary School we believe students will reach their full potential in the learning environment when they are happy, healthy and safe. The positive school culture is respectful and fair, and students are engaged and supported in their learning and wellbeing.

At Beechworth Primary School, student engagement has three interrelated components: behavioural; emotional; and cognitive engagement. These are linked to our school values of Inclusion, Learn, Respect and Safety.

## **Policy statement**

#### **Background**

Beechworth Primary School holds the belief that emotional and physical wellbeing of our students is pivotal to their success at our school and in their future lives. Physically and emotionally healthy students are happy, able to deal positively with life's challenges, experience a sense of connectedness with the school and others, and are well placed to develop into well-balanced and successful young adults.

Our Programs at Beechworth Primary School are intended to be consistent with the Framework for Improving School Outcomes (FISO):

Health and wellbeing programs need to have a positive and significant impact on attitudes to learning, social relationships and student achievement. Effective schools take steps to support students' wellbeing and physical needs, as well as fostering a sense of community and belonging for all. They use social and emotional learning approaches to develop students' self-management and awareness, empathy and relationship skills. Schools ensure that every student has a secure, positive, and ongoing relationship with at least one member of staff.

Teachers incorporate social and emotional learning programs into their classroom to improve a range of student outcomes, including student wellbeing and achievement. Learning is reinforced when the broader school environment is consistent with the knowledge, understanding and skills taught through the Health and Physical Education curriculum, as well as the Respectful Relationships program which supports students to make decisions about their health, wellbeing and safety.

A healthy school environment for staff, students and families is developed through health promoting school policies and processes, supportive physical and social environments and partnerships with parents, community organisations and specialist services.

1

#### **Definitions**

**Behavioural engagement** refers to students' participation in education, including the academic, social and extracurricular activities of our school.

**Emotional engagement** encompasses students' emotional reactions in the classroom and in the school, and measures a students' sense of belonging or connectedness to our school.

**Cognitive engagement** relates to a student's investment in learning and their intrinsic motivation and self-regulation.

**Wellbeing Programs:** ensure schools promote **student wellbeing** in all learning experiences by: providing an environment and curriculum that support **students** to develop knowledge, understanding and skills to manage their own health and **wellbeing**, and to support that of others.

## **Procedures**

At Beechworth Primary School we:

- Foster a healthy school culture in which high levels of achievement take place within a positive social environment,
- Provide students with a safe learning environment where students feel physically and emotionally secure and the risk of harm is minimized,
- Provide support for individual circumstances when a student begins to disengage from their learning, when regular attendance is not consistent or positive behaviours are not demonstrated,
- Maximise student learning opportunities and performance through ensuring students are engaged in their learning,
- Provide an integrated and comprehensive curriculum approach that incorporates equitable opportunities for all students to enhance their own and others' wellbeing through their daily learning experiences,
- Provide teaching and learning experiences that support students to develop knowledge, understanding and skills that enables them to engage critically with a range of health and wellbeing areas and issues,
- Provide genuine opportunities for student/parent participation and student/parent voice,
- Build a school environment based on positive behaviours and values, and,
- Provide both prevention (using cognitive, behavioural and emotional strategies) and intervention for all students at risk.

A summary of our current Wellbeing programs are listed below:

- The implementation of both the Kids Matter Framework & Healthy Together Victoria Achievement Program
- Programs to address Social Emotional Learning which include Bounce Back, Respectful Relationships – Respect Rights & Resilience, Catching On Early
- Group Programs which include Seasons for Growth and Friends for Life.
- Transition Buddies Program
- Transition to Secondary School
- Programs for Students with a Disability
- Student School Support Officer advice and support

#### Relevant accountability documents

Student Health & Wellbeing

Dimension: Health & Wellbeing

Strategic Plan & Annual Implementation Plan

#### Related school policies

- Student Engagement & inclusion Policy
- Discipline Policy
- Bullying Prevention Policy
- ICT Acceptable Usage Policy
- Physical Education & Health Policy

# **Monitoring and review**

This policy should be reviewed every three years and in line with any changes to department policy.

Endorsed by school council:

Date: 18th October 2017

Next review date: Oct 2020