



### **Student Welfare Policy**

At Casterton Secondary College we recognise that student welfare is a responsibility of all members of staff.

- Two Educational Leaders will be responsible for the students in their levels.

We hope to create an environment that is seen to be caring and where teaching and learning is maximised for all students.

#### **We recognise these basic student needs:**

- the basic physiological needs;
- the need for safety and security which is met by being in a suitable, predictable, orderly and non-threatening environment;
- the need to belong and to receive acceptance and approval from others;
- the need for self esteem and to experience a sense of personal worth;
- the need to know and understand one's environment;
- the need to become what one is suited for and to develop one's own identity.

#### **The College has a Welfare & Discipline Committee consisting of:**

- Assistant Principal
- Middle School Leader
- Senior School Leader
- School Nurse

The Welfare & Discipline Committee will support staff in carrying out their welfare functions, assess the welfare needs of the school, engage in forward planning and ensure that staff, expertise and resources are made available to all students.

The Committee will allow other members of staff to make a significant contribution to the student welfare program and prevent it becoming dependent on one person.

#### **The Welfare & Discipline Committee will:**

- involve the staff body in activities designed to foster the well-being of students;
- include all support staff in a coordinated approach to student welfare.
- establish effective communication processes with administration;
- establish effective communication processes with any relevant school council sub-committees
- identify students' needs and formulate recommendations to the curriculum policy-making

#### **Personnel, Organisations, and Structures Available to Support Student Welfare**

##### **Include:**

- Middle School Leader
- Senior School Leader
- Fast tracking
- Education Support Staff
- Careers teacher
- First Aid
- Student Voice

- Coordinators of special programs eg Literacy, Talented Students, Transition programs
- Class teachers
- Principal
- Assistant Principal
- School Nurse
- Outside Agencies

**Programs to support students include**

- Lunchtime class
- Supervised after school homework
- Lunchtime activities
- Targeted intervention programs
- School camps and excursions
- Mentoring
- Pastoral Care Programs
- Extended Home Group program

**Particular Curriculum directions include:**

- Personal Development units in Physical Education / Health and Health and Human Development classes

**Specific Policies related to student welfare include:**

- Bullying and Harassment policy
- Mobile Phone and Electronic Devices policy
- EO Policy
- Mandatory Reporting policy
- Response to critical incidents, such as a death in the school community
- VCE & VCAL policies
- Promotion policy
- 90% attendance policy

**Practices and Procedures indicating concern for student welfare.**

- Discipline Policies - In class procedures, Out of class procedures
- Report writing
- Personal interactions
- Parent interviews
- Attendance monitoring
- Referral to appropriate agencies for assistance
- State Schools relief
- Curriculum Partnership days for Grades 4, 5 and 6

A program budget is prepared for Student Welfare to ensure adequate resourcing of programs and to provide emergency funding for students.

**Home Groups**

It is important that students at all levels receive adequate pastoral care.

Our Home Group system hopes to assist in providing this.

Home groups will be used for:

- parent contact
- monitoring attendance
- developing life skills
- information dissemination
- Pastoral care