

Student Engagement and Wellbeing

Responsibility Assistant Principal

Approved by Principal

Due for Review July 2027



Purpose	The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all students and members of our school community understand: (a) our commitment to providing a safe and supportive learning environment for students (b) expectations for positive student behaviour (c) support available to students and families (d) our school's policies and procedures for responding to inappropriate student behaviour. Hampton Park Primary School is committed to providing a safe, secure and stimulating learning environment for all students. We understand that students reach their full potential only when they are happy, healthy and safe, and that a positive school culture, where student participation is encouraged and valued, helps to engage students and support them in their learning. Our school acknowledges that student wellbeing and student learning outcomes are closely linked. The objective of this policy is to support our school to create and maintain a safe, supportive and inclusive school environment consistent with our school's values.
Scope	This policy applies to all school activities, including camps and excursions.
Policy	School profile Situated within the City of Casey, Hampton Park Primary School provides a Prep to Year 6 program for its over 425 students. The school was established in 1922, recently celebrating its 100 years. Our student population is made up of families from over 60 different cultural backgrounds which provides great richness and diversity in our school community which we value highly. We are proud of our inclusive and culturally diverse learning environment. We believe every child deserves access to a rich, engaging, and challenging educational experience. Our aim is to foster a supportive and stimulating setting where all students are empowered to achieve their personal best, both academically and socially. The school's Student Family Occupation and Education (SFOE) index remains within the High Band. Currently, 4% of our students identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, and 5% of our student population have a diagnosed disability. More than 60% of our students speak a language other than English at home, and 14% have refugee backgrounds. School values, philosophy and vision Our Vision Hampton Park Primary School - empowering lifelong learners who contribute to and thrive in an inclusive, connected community. We believe that every student has the potential to grow academically, socially, and emotionally. Our goal is to create a sense of belonging where everyone feels valued and motivated to succeed. By

working together as a community, we aim to equip our students with the skills and values they need to face the future with confidence and positivity.

- Empowering lifelong learners: Helping students develop skills that will serve them throughout their lives.
- Contributing to an inclusive community: Encouraging everyone to be respectful and supportive of each other.
- Thriving together: Creating a school where all students can succeed, feel connected, and reach their full potential.
- Fostering personal growth: Supporting students to become confident, responsible, and resilient individuals.

Our Values

Respect

At Hampton Park Primary School, we demonstrate respect by looking after both people and property. We are considerate, offer help when needed, and show kindness to everyone around. We take care of the things we share, such as school materials, playground equipment, and classrooms. When we are respectful, we create a positive environment where everyone has the opportunity to feel valued, safe, and supported, allowing everyone to thrive and succeed.

Responsibility

At Hampton Park Primary School we demonstrate responsibility by taking care of ourselves and making thoughtful choices, while being accountable for the outcomes. We stay organised and manage our time effectively, follow through on commitments, take care of our wellbeing, and consider how our choices affect others. When we are responsible, we create an environment where we can achieve our goals and support ourselves and others.

Resilience

At Hampton Park Primary School we demonstrate resilience by bouncing back when faced with challenges. We stay positive, even when things don't go as planned. Resilience encourages us to face difficulties with determination and to see setbacks as opportunities to grow. When we are resilient, we build confidence in ourselves and show others that we can overcome challenges with a positive attitude and perseverance.

Wellbeing and engagement strategies

Hampton Park Primary School has developed a range of strategies to promote engagement, an inclusive and safe environment, positive behaviour, and respectful relationships for all students in our school. We recognise the importance of student friendships and peer support in helping children and students feel safe and less isolated. We acknowledge that some students may need extra social, emotional or educational support at school, and that the needs of students will change over time as they grow and learn.

A summary of the universal (whole of school), targeted (year group specific) and individual engagement strategies used by our school is included below:

Universal

- Schoolwide Positive Behaviour Supports (Tier 1 – Universal)
- high and consistent expectations of all staff, students and parents and carers
- prioritise positive relationships between staff and students, recognising the fundamental role this plays in building and sustaining student wellbeing

- creating a culture that is inclusive, engaging and supportive and that embraces and celebrates diversity and empowers all students to participate and feel valued
- welcoming all parents/carers and being responsive to them as partners in learning
- analysing and being responsive to a range of school data such as attendance, Attitudes to School Survey, Parent Opinion Survey, student management and school level assessment data
- deliver a broad curriculum
- teachers at Hampton Park Primary School use a teaching and learning model to ensure an explicit, common and shared model of instruction to ensure that evidenced-based, high yield teaching practices are incorporated into all lessons
- teachers at Hampton Park Primary School adopt a broad range of teaching and assessment approaches to effectively respond to the diverse learning styles, strengths and needs of our students and follow the standards set by the Victorian Institute of Teaching
- our school's Statement of Values and School Philosophy are incorporated into our curriculum and promoted to students, staff and parents so that they are shared and celebrated as the foundation of our school community
- carefully planned transition programs to support students moving into different stages of their schooling
- positive behaviour and student achievement is acknowledged in the classroom, and formally in school assemblies and communication to parents
- monitor student attendance and implement attendance improvement strategies at a whole-school, cohort and individual level
- students have the opportunity to contribute to and provide feedback on decisions about school operations through the Student Representative Council and other forums including year group meetings and Peer Support Groups. Students are also encouraged to speak with their teachers, Year Level Coordinator, Assistant Principal and Principal whenever they have any questions or concerns.
- create opportunities for cross—age connections amongst students through school plays, athletics, music programs and peer support programs
- all students are welcome to self-refer to the Wellbeing team, Assistant Principal and Principal if they would like to discuss a particular issue or feel as though they may need support of any kind. We are proud to have an 'open door' policy where students and staff are partners in learning
- we engage in school wide positive behaviour support with our staff and students, which includes programs such as:
 - Respectful Relationships
 - Bully Stoppers
 - Safe Schools
- programs, incursions and excursions developed to address issue specific needs or behaviour (i.e. anger management programs)
- opportunities for student inclusion (sports teams, recess and lunchtime clubs)
- measures are in place to empower our school community to identify, report and address inappropriate and harmful behaviours such as racism, homophobia and other forms of discrimination or harassment.

Targeted

- the wellbeing and engagement team monitor the health and wellbeing of students in their year, and act as a point of contact for students who may need additional support
- Koorie students are supported to engage fully in their education, in a positive learning environment that understands and appreciates the strength of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture

- our English as an additional language students are supported through our EAL program, and all cultural and linguistically diverse students are supported to feel safe and included in our school
- we support the learning and wellbeing outcomes of students from refugee backgrounds through our English language Foundations program.
- we provide a positive and respectful learning environment for our students who identify as LGBTIQA+ and follow the Department's policy on [LGBTIQA+ Student Support](#)
- all students in Out of Home Care are supported in accordance with the Department's policy on [Supporting Students in Out-of-Home Care](#) including being appointed a Learning Mentor, having an Individual Learning Plan and a Student Support Group (SSG) and being referred to Student Support Services for an Educational Needs Assessment
- students with a disability are supported to be able to engage fully in their learning and school activities in accordance with the Department's policy on [Students with Disability](#), such as through reasonable adjustments to support access to learning programs, consultation with families and where required, student support groups and individual education plans
- wellbeing and health staff will undertake health promotion and social skills development in response to needs identified by student wellbeing data, classroom teachers or other school staff each year
- staff will apply a trauma-informed approach to working with students who have experienced trauma
- students enrolled under the Department's international student program are supported in accordance with our legal obligations and Department policy and guidelines at: [International Student Program](#)

Individual

Hampton Park Primary School implements a range of strategies that support and promote individual engagement. These can include:

- building constructive relationships with students at risk or students who are vulnerable due to complex individual circumstances
- meeting with student and their parent/carer to talk about how best to help the student engage with school
- developing an Individual Learning Plan and/or a Behaviour Support Plan
- considering if any environmental changes need to be made, for example changing the classroom set up
- referring the student to:
 - school-based wellbeing supports
 - Student Support Services
 - Appropriate external supports such as council based youth and family services, other allied health professionals, headspace, child and adolescent mental health services or ChildFirst
 - Re-engagement programs such as Navigator.

Where necessary the school will support the student's family to engage by:

- being responsive and sensitive to changes in the student's circumstances and health and wellbeing
- collaborating, where appropriate and with the support of the student and their family, with any external allied health professionals, services or agencies that are supporting the student
- monitoring individual student attendance and developing an Attendance Improvement Plans in collaboration with the student and their family
- engaging with our regional Koorie Engagement Support Officers
- running regular Student Support Group meetings for all students:

- with a disability
- in Out of Home Care
- with other complex needs that require ongoing support and monitoring.

Identifying students in need of support

Hampton Park Primary School is committed to providing the necessary support to ensure our students are supported intellectually, emotionally and socially. The Student Wellbeing and Engagement team plays a significant role in developing and implementing strategies help identify students in need of support and enhance student wellbeing. Hampton Park Primary School will utilise the following information and tools to identify students in need of extra emotional, social or educational support:

- personal, health and learning information gathered upon enrolment and while the student is enrolled
- attendance records
- academic performance
- observations by school staff such as changes in engagement, behaviour, self-care, social connectedness and motivation
- attendance, and suspension data
- engagement with families.

Student rights and responsibilities

All members of our school community have a right to experience a safe and supportive school environment. We expect that all students, staff, parents and carers treat each other with respect and dignity. Our school's Statement of Values highlights the rights and responsibilities of members of our community.

Students have the right to:

- participate fully in their education
- feel safe, secure and happy at school
- learn in an environment free from bullying, harassment, violence, racism, discrimination or intimidation
- express their ideas, feelings and concerns.

Students have the responsibility to:

- participate fully in their educational program
- display positive behaviours that demonstrate respect for themselves, their peers, their teachers and members of the school community
- respect the right of others to learn.

Students who may have a complaint or concern about something that has happened at school are encouraged to speak to their parents or carers and approach a trusted teacher or a member of the school leadership team. Further information about raising a complaint or concern is available in our Complaints Policy.

Student behavioural expectations and Schoolwide Positive Behaviour Support

Hampton Park Primary School adopts the Schoolwide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) framework. Behavioural expectations of students are grounded in our school's Statement of Values/Student code of conduct.

Violence, bullying, and other offensive and harmful behaviours such as racism, harassment and discrimination will not be tolerated and will be managed in accordance with this policy. Bullying will be managed in accordance with our Bullying Prevention Policy.

When a student acts in breach of the behaviour standards of our school community, Hampton Park Primary School will institute a staged response, consistent with the Department's policies on behaviour, discipline and student wellbeing and engagement. Where appropriate, parents will be informed about the inappropriate behaviour and the disciplinary action taken by teachers and other school staff.

Our school engages with Schoolwide Positive Behaviour Supports and considers, explores and implements positive and non-punitive interventions to support student behaviour before considering disciplinary measures such as detention, withdrawal of privileges or withdrawal from class.

Disciplinary measures may be used as part of a staged response to inappropriate behaviour in combination with other engagement and support strategies to ensure that factors that may have contributed to the student's behaviour are identified and addressed. Disciplinary measures at our school will be applied fairly and consistently. Students will always be provided with an opportunity to be heard.

Disciplinary measures that may be applied include:

- warning a student that their behaviour is inappropriate
- teacher controlled consequences such as moving a student in a classroom or other reasonable and proportionate responses to misbehaviour
- withdrawal of privileges
- referral to the Wellbeing and Engagement Team
- restorative practices
- detentions
- behaviour support and intervention meetings
- suspension
- expulsion.

Suspension, expulsion and restrictive interventions are measures of last resort and may only be used in situations consistent with Department policy, available at:

- <https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/suspensions/policy>
- <https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/expulsions/policy>
- <https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/restraint-seclusion/policy>

In line with Ministerial Order 1125, no student aged 8 or younger will be expelled without the approval of the Secretary of the Department of Education.

The Principal of Hampton Park Primary School is responsible for ensuring all suspensions and expulsions are recorded on CASES21.

Corporal punishment is prohibited by law and will not be used in any circumstance at our school.

Engaging with families

Hampton Park Primary School values the input of parents and carers, and we will strive to support families to engage in their child's learning and build their capacity as active learners. We aim to be partners in learning with parents and carers in our school community.

We work hard to create successful partnerships with parents and carers by:

- ensuring that all parents have access to our school policies and procedures, available on our school website
- maintaining an open, respectful line of communication between parents and staff, supported by our Communicating with School Staff policy.
- providing parent volunteer opportunities so that families can contribute to school activities
- involving families with homework and other curriculum-related activities
- involving families in school decision making

	• coordinating resources and services from the community for families • including families in Student Support Groups, and developing individual plans for students. Evaluation Hampton Park Primary School will collect data each year to understand the frequency and types of wellbeing issues that are experienced by our students so that we can measure the success or otherwise of our school-based strategies and identify emerging trends or needs. Sources of data that will be assessed on an annual basis include: • student survey data • incidents data • school reports • parent survey • case management • CASES21, including attendance and absence data • SOCS Hampton Park Primary School will also regularly monitor available data dashboards to ensure any wellbeing or engagement issues are acted upon in a timely manner and any intervention occurs as soon as possible.
Communication	This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways: • available publicly on our school's website • included in staff induction processes • available for transition and enrolment • link in staff handbook • discussed at staff briefings as required • made available in hard copy from school administration upon request. Our school will also ensure it follows the mandatory parent/carer notification requirements with respect to suspensions and expulsions outlined in the Department's policies at: • Suspension process • Expulsions - Decision Suspension, expulsion and restrictive interventions are measures of last resort and may only be used in situations consistent with Department policy, available at: • https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/suspensions/policy • https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/expulsions/policy • https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/restraint-seclusion/policy In line with Ministerial Order 1125, no student aged 8 or younger will be expelled without the approval of the Secretary of the Department of Education.
Further information and resources	The following Department of Education policies are relevant to this Student Engagement and Wellbeing Policy: • Attendance • Student Engagement • Child Safe Standards • Supporting Students in Out-of-Home Care • Students with Disability • LGBTIQA+ Student Support • Behaviour - Students • Suspensions • Expulsions

- [Restraint and Seclusion.](#)

The following school policies are also relevant to this Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy:

- Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy
- Bullying Prevention Policy
- Inclusion and Diversity Policy
- Statement of Values and School Philosophy.