PASTORAL CARE

Preamble
The school will foster the wellbeing of all its members through a clearly outlined welfare framework which focuses on the daily responsibility of all staff to respond to the physical, social and emotional needs of all students thereby enhancing student resilience and educational outcomes. As a supplement to this the school will have access to a School Counsellor. The School Counsellor will play an integral part in the pastoral care program as they endeavor to meet the needs of our community.

1. Aims:
   • To provide successful experiences for all children, where children feel safe and secure in a supportive environment where a sense of belonging and wellbeing are strengthened.
   • For children to develop positive social behaviours and problem solving skills.
   • For staff to feel supported in the management of student welfare issues.
   • For communication processes and protocols to be clear and well known ensuring the effectiveness of student welfare support.

2. Implementation:
Where funds permit a Student Welfare Officer will be employed, who will:
   • offer secular-based pastoral care program to the Cambridge Primary School community
   • work within the guidelines of DET and School Council policy and is accountable to the Principal in undertaking his/her role on a day to day basis
   • work as team member with staff and student support personnel under the guidance of a principal class officer (PCO), assigned with this role
   • provide a caring, supportive presence within the school
   • gain parental consent using a standard pro-forma before providing ongoing individual support to any student. A first ‘one off visit’ requires a teacher or student request
   • have a current Working With Children Check, where Cambridge Primary School is listed as an organisation for work
   • refer disclosures covered by mandatory reporting requirements to the school principal or assistant principal (responsible for the particular year level of the student involved).
   • connect with students and engage with them in a range of activities
   • help develop, or participate in, programs designed to meet the wellbeing needs of students
   • be available to assist parents and staff if required
   • meet with PCOs and other welfare staff on a regular basis and liaise with the decision making bodies of the school, including the school Leadership and Executive Teams
   • liaise closely with teachers in relation to students in their care and with external agencies such as Local Government, community and other support groups
   • advise the PCOs of any safety and wellbeing issues related to students
   • provide a written report to the PCOs each term outlining their activities including their duties and suggestions for improvement with a summary report to be tabled at School Council each month about the programs that were run (not counselling)

Respect, Caring, Resilience, Love of Learning, Honesty, Positivity
• keep confidential accurate written records of school based activities and suggestions for improvement or change
• be involved in professional development
• engage with parents by attending a range of school and social events to raise awareness of his or her role in the school community
• observe the Child Safety Code of Conduct and Child Safe Environment policy.

3. Evaluation
This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s 3 yearly review cycle and may include quantitative data such as
• Parent Opinion Survey
• Attitude to School Data
• Invited written response from the school community
• Attitudes to School Surveys

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