



WERRIBEE SECONDARY COLLEGE

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STUDENT WELLBEING AND ENGAGEMENT POLICY

Date	October 2023	Review Cycle	2 Years	Approved By	Principal <i>(community consultation)</i>
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INTERPRETER SERVICE

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact our college on 9741 1822 or werribee.sc@education.vic.gov.au so interpreters may be arranged via VITS or local services.



PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all students and members of our school community are aware of:

- (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 Child Safe practices

Werribee Secondary College is committed to providing a safe, secure and stimulating learning environment for all students. We understand that students can reach their potential only when they are happy, healthy and safe. We believe that a positive school culture 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.

This policy applies to all school activities, including camps and excursions.

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COLLEGE MISSION AND VALUES

At Werribee Secondary College we strive for success in all the chosen endeavours of our students. We nurture the values of **respect** and **responsibility**.

We **respect**, and are **responsible** for embracing our identity and that of others; taking care of our local and global communities, and valuing the right to learn.

We respect and are responsible for our:

Learning

I respect my own right to learn and that of others, and I recognise my responsibility to become a lifelong learner.

Identity

I respect the diverse cultures, religions, languages, beliefs, genders, sexual orientation and the specific needs of those around me. I respect my own role within this community and take responsibility to show respect for both myself and others.

Community

I respect the local and global communities within which I live. I understand my responsibility in protecting these communities to ensure a safe and sustainable future in which everyone feels they belong.

RELATED POLICIES

Copies of all related policies are available on the college website at werribeesc.vic.edu.au

- Attendance Policy
- Uniform Policy
- Mobile Phone Policy
- Inclusive Education and Special Educational Needs
- International Homestay Policy
- First Aid Policy
- Health Care Needs Policy
- Anaphylaxis Policy
- Asthma Policy
- Administration of Medication Policy
- Smoking and Vaping Ban Policy
- BYODD Program & Devices
- BYODD Acceptable Use Policy
- BYODD Using Technologies Appropriately
- Visitors Policy
- Volunteers Policy
- Staff Register Policy
- DET Schools Privacy Policy
- DET CCTV Policy
- Child Safety Policy

WELLBEING AND ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Werribee Secondary College has developed universal (whole school), targeted (year group) and individual engagement strategies to promote engagement, positive behavior and respectful relationships for all students in our school. We are in the process of implementing Schoolwide Positive Behavior Support (SWPBS). This framework underpins the colleges expectations for our community in living our values of respect and responsibility. 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. The College community provides a safe and caring environment where each student is valued, ensuring they are equipped with the skills, knowledge and attitude needed for the dynamic world after secondary education. When providing support for students the College aims to create working relationships built on mutual respect, and accountability.

The College has a number of personnel, strategies and processes in place to monitor and support students who may be at risk of not successfully achieving their chosen endeavors. These include:

- A Student Wellbeing Team
- Sub-School Teams
- Home group
- Koori Education Support Officer
- Referrals to DET and external agencies
- MYLNS stand alone supports
- Student re-engagement programs
- Careers Department and pathways counselling

- A range of Senior School programs
- [Student Support Groups](#)
- [Individual Education Plans](#)
- [Behaviour - Students](#)
- [Behaviour Support Plans](#)
- [Student Support Services](#)


Other Department programs and services such as:

- [Mental health toolkit](#)
- [headspace](#)
- [Navigator](#)
- [LOOKOUT](#)

IDENTIFYING STUDENTS IN NEED OF SUPPORT

Werribee Secondary College is committed to providing the necessary support to ensure our students are supported academically, emotionally and socially. The sub-schools (Year Level Coordinators) and Student Wellbeing team plays a significant role in developing and implementing strategies help identify students in need of support and enhance student wellbeing.

STUDENT BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS AND MANAGEMENT

 WERRIBEE SECONDARY COLLEGE SCHOOL WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR MATRIX				
We RESPECT and are RESPONSIBLE for our: <i>Learning Identity Community</i>				
We Are	In All Locations	In The Classroom	In The Schoolyard	In The Community
RESPECTFUL when we:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use our manners • are mindful of how we communicate • are inclusive of others • listen to others • consider personal space, privacy and property 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • allow others to learn • celebrate personal and collective success • are open to new and different perspectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • take pride in our school grounds • speak to and treat each other with kindness and courtesy • create and contribute to a safe environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • acknowledge the country we are on • follow the expectations of the setting we are in • are kind to members of the community
RESPONSIBLE when we:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wear our school uniform with pride • demonstrate WSC values • act in a way that creates a safe environment (physically and emotionally) • take care of our land 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are on time and ready to learn • actively apply ourselves to our learning • follow safety rules • use ICT devices for learning purposes • follow reasonable instructions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • put rubbish in the bin • say something if we see something • look out for each other's wellbeing • look after our equipment and facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • represent the school positively • look out for ourselves and others • use public transport with care

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 Year Level Coordinator

- restorative practices
- detentions
- behaviour support and intervention meetings
- suspension
- expulsion

SUSPENSIONS AND EXPULSIONS

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 and Training. The Principal of Werribee Secondary College is responsible for ensuring all suspensions and expulsions are recorded.

EVALUATION

Werribee Secondary College 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.

Werribee Secondary College 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 the staff handbook and induction processes
- Discussed in relevant staff meetings, briefings, parent nights and assemblies
- Available on Compass so that it is easily accessible to parents, carers and students
- Made available in electronic/digital 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](#)

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

The following Department of Education and Training policies are relevant to this Student Wellbeing Policy:

- [Attendance](#)
- [Student Engagement](#)
- [Child Safe Standards](#)
- [Supporting Students in Out-of-Home Care](#)
- [Students with Disability](#)
- [LGBTIQ Student Support](#)
- [Behaviour - Students](#)
- [Suspensions](#)
- [Expulsions](#)
- [Restraint and Seclusion](#)

