



Chandler Park Primary School
Cochrane Avenue, KEYSBOROUGH 3173
Telephone: (03) 9798 2228

ABN 80 478 723 139
chandler.park.ps@education.vic.gov.au
www.chandlerparkpsvic.edu.au

STUDENT WELLBEING AND ENGAGEMENT POLICY

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.

Chandler 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 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.

CONTENTS

1. School profile
2. School values, philosophy and vision
3. Engagement strategies
4. Identifying students in need of support
5. Student rights and responsibilities
6. Student behavioural expectations
7. Engaging with families
8. Evaluation

POLICY

School profile

At Chandler Park we encourage and foster positive attitudes towards learning. We have high expectations of success, a collaborative focus on improving student learning outcomes and an inclusive school environment in which the development of every child is our priority. We have an expectation that students will have:

- A sense of their own learning strengths- using learning styles, effective learning behaviours, concentration and resilience
- Organisational skills and strategies to work independently
- A repertoire of learning strategies to use in a variety of learning situations
- Self -confidence to persist in the acquisition of literacy, oracy and numeracy skills

- Develop skills to research, organise and present data
- The skills to be a reflective learner.

The facilities at the school include permanent classrooms for 17 classes and portable classrooms for 4 classes. There is also a full sized gymnasium for sport and community use with a modern canteen and utility space for parents to meet as part of the design. Other dedicated classrooms include a performing arts room (music), visual arts studio (art), LOTE classroom (Mandarin), STEM classroom (science, technology, engineering and mathematics). A Before and After School Care program is operated on site by Theircare, a registered care provider.

The school offers strong specialist programs in, Physical Education, Mandarin, Visual Arts, Science and Music. Literacy, Numeracy and Student Wellbeing are priorities for our school. Information technology is intrinsic to all our programs. Constructive and effective student engagement programs ensure that we strive to achieve our motto – Pride In Excellence.

The school has 53 dedicated staff members comprising 2 Principal Class Teachers, 1 Student Wellbeing Leading Teacher, 2 Learning Specialist Teachers, 21 Classroom Teachers, 5 Specialist Teachers (Visual Arts, Performing Arts, Mandarin, STEM and PE), 3 Learning Support Teachers, Speech Pathologist, Occupational Therapist, Librarian, 2 Information Technology Staff, Business Manager, First Aid Officer and another 12 Education Support staff all working effectively in teams and continually striving to improve the learning outcomes for all students.

At Chandler Park, we encourage parent involvement in all areas of the school and the partnership between parent, teacher and each child is highly valued. We offer a variety of opportunities for parent participation. When home and school work closely together, children are able to progress to the best of their abilities. If children have parents with a positive attitude to school, then they are much more likely to succeed.

Parent participation is actively sought and in 2021 (subject to COVID-19 guidelines) parents will be given the opportunity to get involved in school life whether it be as a member of the school Council, attending incursions and excursions, school camps, school swimming program, transporting students to sporting activities, attending concerts, assisting with the Talk and Move PMP Prep program, covering books or helping out in the library, canteen or in the classrooms or attending the parent teacher student interview meetings we hope to see you at throughout the year.

The external environment of the school is extremely attractive and our gardens are maintained regularly. The school grounds have been extensively upgraded with a large number of quiet shaded areas as well as a soccer field/ football oval, a netball court, 2 basketball courts and a turf running track with an attached long/triple jump pit.

We welcome visitors to experience the school and to see for themselves and their families, whether Chandler Park is the right school of choice. Chandler Park Primary School's philosophy is based on a commitment to lifelong learning and developing every child's social, emotional and academic learning and physical well-being.

School values, philosophy and vision

We are a friendly and caring school providing a quality service to families and an outstanding education for children. Our motto 'Pride in Excellence' supports our vision of children achieving to their potential. As children bring a variety of experiences and learning needs to school, we provide a wide range of challenging and flexible programs enabling them to develop as happy, knowledgeable, optimistic, creative and resilient learners who will always do their best and strive for excellence.

We have a safe and inclusive learning environment and we expect every student to uphold the values that underpin the management and teaching practices at our school.

They are:

- Collaboration – being friends, caring for each other and working together
- Respect – For self, for others, for property and environment.
- Resilience – trusting in ourselves, having a go and not giving up
- Innovation – to use initiative and imagination to create something new.

Engagement Strategies

Chandler Park Primary School has developed a range of strategies to promote engagement, positive behaviour and respectful relationships for all students in our school. 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.

Universal interventions help schools to create a positive, inclusive and supportive school climate, building the preconditions for optimal student learning, development and wellbeing. Targeted interventions complement universal interventions and provide essential additional support for cohorts of students who may have specific needs or vulnerabilities. Targeted interventions include individual interventions for a cohort. Individual interventions are designed for students who are identified as requiring intensive tailored support to engage positively in education.

Chandler 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
- 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 Child First

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
- running regular Student Support Group meetings for all students:
 - with a disability
 - in Out of Home Care
 - and with other complex needs that require ongoing support and monitoring.

1. Identifying students in need of support

Chandler Park Primary School is committed to providing the necessary support to ensure our students are supported intellectually, emotionally and socially. The Student Wellbeing team plays a significant role in developing and implementing strategies help identify students in need of support and enhance student wellbeing. Chandler 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, detention and suspension data
- engagement with families

- self-referrals or referrals from peers

2. 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, 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.

3. Student behavioural expectations

Behavioural expectations of students, staff and families are grounded in our school's Statement of Values. Student bullying behaviour will be responded to consistently with Chandler Park Primary School's Bullying policy.

When a student acts in breach of the behaviour standards of our school community, Chandler Park Primary School will institute a staged response, consistent with the Department's Student Engagement and Inclusion Guidelines. Where appropriate, parents will be informed about the inappropriate behaviour and the disciplinary action taken by teachers and other school staff.

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 PLC Leader
- restorative practices
- detentions
- behaviour reviews
- 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>

Chandler Park Primary School is committed to following to DET guidance on restraint and seclusion

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 Chandler Park Primary School is responsible for ensuring all suspensions and expulsions are recorded on CASES21. Corporal punishment is prohibited in our school and will not be used in any circumstance.

4. Engaging with families

Chandler 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.

5. Evaluation

Chandler 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 and COMPASS
- SOCS

REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last updated on October 26, 2021 and is scheduled for review in October 2023