



CHRYSALIS STEINER SCHOOL

educating the whole child

Safe and Supportive Environment Policy

Preamble

A safe environment for staff, students and other members of the School community is one where the risk of physical or psychological harm is minimised and every person feels secure.

The School wishes to promote an environment where all community members are mutually supportive. The School encourages consultation between all members of the School community in matters which affect them. All members should respect each other and not engage in conduct which undermines this mutual trust and support, and also respects the philosophy and ethics of the School.

Security

The School implements measures designed to promote the safety and wellbeing of teachers, students and other members of the School community, particularly having regard to its professional judgement as to what is required and includes in its consideration such matters as:

- appropriate levels of supervision including on-site and off-site activities,
- security of buildings,
- procedures in case of fire critical incidents ie. evacuation/lockdown,
- Maintenance and use of grounds and facilities, and
- travel on School-related activities.

The implementation of these requirements and procedures is regularly reviewed.

Child Protection

The School has in place policies and procedures to ensure that it meets its legislative obligations in relation to child protection.

Teachers, staff and any other persons involved in the provision of education or other services for students of the School who are undertaking courses, subjects, tutoring or other education either on or off-site which have been arranged by the School, or who are involved, at the request of the School, in the provision of accommodation for students for the purposes of their schooling, will be subject to the requirements of relevant child protection legislation.

Supervision

Appropriate measures are taken by School staff to seek to ensure that all students are adequately cared for and supervised while undertaking both on-site and off-site activities, bearing in mind the type of activities and age of the students involved.

Conduct

The School has in place Codes of Conduct for staff, students and parents/carers which may be supplemented from time to time by specific rules and directives. The Codes of Conduct includes such matters as:

- The rights and responsibilities of students, staff and parents/carers within the School community.
- Behaviour management.
- The role of the School leadership in the monitoring of that system.
- The management and reporting of serious incidents.
- The School has established and implemented appropriate behaviour management practices for students, consistent with the philosophy of the School and with other aspects of this policy.

Pastoral Care

Students are made aware of, and have access to, appropriate pastoral care arrangements and access to, and use of, counselling with the School.

The School takes reasonable measures to identify students with special needs and provide them with an appropriate level of support to assist such students with their schooling with minimal disruption, taking into account the resources available.

Students requiring health and/or medical services and support or medication will be assisted to access these in an appropriate manner.

Communication

The School provides both formal and informal mechanisms to facilitate communication between those with an interest in the student's education and wellbeing. This may include communications between some or all of the following: student; parent or guardian or other significant family member of the student; teacher; counsellor; senior manager; representative or an appropriate government, welfare, health or other authority.

In addition, the following parent/carers communication channels are provided:

- The School's website includes comprehensive information about the School and formal mechanisms for stakeholders interested in student welfare.
- Class Meetings occur up to 4 times a year and offer the forum for stakeholders (parents in particular) to raise issues for discussion and collaboration.
- Regular school newsletter and School Magazine.

Complaints and Grievances

The School has in place processes for dealing with complaints and grievances raised by staff, students and/or parents. These processes will incorporate, as appropriate, principles of procedural fairness.

Related Policies and Procedures

The following policies and procedures have been developed to support the implementation of the Safe and Supportive Environment Policy.

- Child Protection Policy
- Complaints Policy and Procedure

Implementation

All of the above policies and procedures will apply when the School has made arrangements for students of the School to undertake courses, subjects, tutoring or other education either on or off-site.

All of the above policies will be implemented in a manner that is appropriate to the School, its students and the School community and with regard to the relevant legislative requirements that apply to the School and the students within its care.

Related Policy Name: See list above

Responsible: Business Manager and Education Manager

Review Date: Every 5 years or as legislature dictates

Last Updated: 8 January 2019