

Wellington Christian School Policy



STUDENT WELFARE

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| RANGS Reference | 3.6.2 |
| Date of Last Review | September 2015 |
| Board approval required | No |
| Owner | Head of School |

RATIONALE

The emotional, physical and spiritual wellbeing of students at Wellington Christian School is important in their success at school, whether in the classroom or in the playground. Healthy students are happy, settled, resilient, connected to school and others and are well placed to develop into well balanced adults who confidently know who they are with respect to biblical truth and are willing to take their place in the world based on a desire to seek and serve God and fulfill His purposes in their life. This document outlines policy statements about how the school will work with parents to provide programs, encouragement and support for students to meet their personal, social and learning needs, as outlined above. Clear school rules and behavior management strategies, well understood values, strategies to recognize achievement and excellent support structures for students combine to provide an environment where students can feel safe and valued and their welfare can be paramount.

STATEMENT

1. Student welfare is a shared responsibility between school, home and the community. When all three work together in partnership, it is a precious thing.
2. Student welfare encompasses everything that happens in the school to meet personal, spiritual, social and learning needs of students. Wellington Christian School will adopt a proactive and strategic stance on issues of student welfare, rather than solely being reactive.
3. Parents and the community will be consulted on issues that affect children's social development and learning within the school.
4. A culture of positive reinforcement will be encouraged in all aspects of the school based on biblical instructions to build one another up.
5. Student work, gifts and achievements will be regularly showcased and celebrated through such things as class interactions, assemblies and newsletters.
6. Wellington Christian School will budget for and provide access to outside services to provide support to students and staff in some circumstances that warrant intervention which include:
 - 6.1 Psychologist for psychological or academic assessment
 - 6.2 Mentors to provide support for at risk students
 - 6.3 Youth agencies that provide support services that target the needs of individual students

- 6.4 Health services as required, either in response to accidents/incidents or in other areas of general health
- 6.5 Counselling or advice from church organizations
7. Wellington Christian School will, if possible, appoint a school counselor to monitor and support students at school. According to budget constraints or assessed need, this role may be full or part time.
8. Wellington Christian School will maintain a commitment to structured and timetabled Pastoral Care Groups. These groups will be the forum for the delivery of the schools biblical studies curriculum and also for the building of healthy relationships and a formalized avenue for pastoral care to take place.
9. Wellington Christian School will allocate part of the Head of School role to the pastoral care and wellbeing of students in the relevant section of the student body they each have responsibility for.
10. Longitudinal data will be collected regarding frequency and types of welfare issues, so as to measure the success or otherwise of school based strategies and approaches as well as provide targeted direction for the provision of support for students at school.
11. Wellington Christian School will provide a clear behaviour management plan that provides direction and both positive and negative consequences for behaviour choices at school.
12. Students will be provided with opportunities for student leadership that allows development of skills and positive relationships within different year groups in the school context.
13. A major focus of PDHPE curriculum will be on healthy living and choices, taught from a clear Christian and biblical perspective that allows students to make positive choices for their life.
14. Guest speakers that can build positively into the lives of students in a manner consistent with the vision and mission of the school will be sought and invited to share with students.
15. Students at Wellington Christian School will be encouraged to develop an outward focus through involvement in charities, mission work, overseas experiences, WCS community service days and other events designed to help others in our local or wider community.
16. Wellington Christian School will provide opportunities for effective transition into the school for families and students through activities such as orientation days, kindergarten barbeques, dedication services and suppers, and outdoor education experiences that develop closer relationships and challenges that build resilience.
17. Parent involvement is encouraged at Wellington Christian School and the school makes a commitment to communicate in a timely manner regarding student welfare issues with parents.
18. The Wellington Christian School Student Code of Conduct provides a positive set of expectations that allow students to confidently know how to behave in the school setting.
19. A range of extra-curricular activities will be encouraged to provide opportunities for students to try new things, to relate to students in other year groups and to provide meaningful activities at lunchtimes.
20. Students will be encouraged to be part of their school by provision of a student executive that allows students to have an authentic voice in school procedures.
21. A relationship with the School Liaison Police Officer (SLP) will be fostered and students will be encouraged to build a positive relationship with the Police through this role.

| Related Policies & Procedures | Person Responsible |
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| Child Protection Policy | Head of School |
| Critical Incident Policy | Head of School |
| Anti Bullying Policy | Head of School |
| Grievance Policy | Head of School |
| Attendance Policy | Head of School |
| Anti Discrimination Policy | Head of School |
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