

# Nangiloc Colignan and District Primary School



## STUDENT WELLBEING AND ENGAGEMENT POLICY

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### 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.

Nangiloc Colignan and District 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.

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2. School values, philosophy and vision
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### POLICY

#### 1. School profile

Nangiloc Colignan and District Primary School is a co-educational non-denominational school, catering for children from Foundation (Prep) to Grade 6, with a student population of approximately 38 students. Nangiloc Colignan and District Primary School services a remote rural community 50kms from Mildura in the North Western Region. Originally Nangiloc Primary opened in 1924 with 15 students and enjoys a great history in the region. The 1960s saw an expansion in the school with the addition of classrooms and a swimming pool. Nangiloc

Primary merged with Colignan Primary in 1993. The school is situated on Kulkyne Way with spacious ovals and play areas, offering a holistic learning experience.

We strive to provide a nurturing and challenging environment that empowers students to reach their personal best, both academically and socially.

## **2. School values, philosophy and vision**

At Nangiloc Colignan and District Primary we offer our students an innovative and inspiring educational experience. Our focus is on developing self-directed learners who make a positive and meaningful contribution to our community.

Our mission is:

- To provide a safe, supportive and engaging environment
- To empower and challenge students to strive for excellence
- To emphasise cooperation within team based environments for planning and teaching in all areas of the curriculum.
- To celebrate student, staff and school achievements
- To be an important active part of the community.
- To encourage parents and students to be actively involved in the school.
- To be well resourced in regards to curriculum materials and technology

Our school core values are:

- Innovation
- Teamwork
- Responsibility
- Respect
- Community

## **3. Engagement strategies**

Nangiloc Colignan and District 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.

A summary of the universal (whole of school), targeted (year group specific) and individual engagement strategies used by our school is included below:

### Universal

- *Personalised learning programmes provided to all students in reading, writing and mathematics.*
- *online curriculum accessible to students and parents at school and home.*
- *developmental progressions for all learning areas of the Victorian Curriculum, these provide a structured interpretation across levels F-8. At each level, learning intentions describe the observable skills and strategies.*
- *individualized feedback provided daily to students in reading, mathematics and writing.*
- *regular online assessment (5 – week) through ‘Essential Assessment’ monitors student growth and achievement.*
- *teachers at Nangiloc Colignan and District Primary School use a combination of whole class (mini lessons), explicit instruction and guided groups. The instructional model*

*ensures that evidence-based, high yield teaching practices are incorporated into all lessons.*

- *Whole class (mini lessons) instruction of reading and writing strategies, modelled and taught explicitly. This includes the use of 'Anchor Charts' organised under the elements of V.C.O.P (Vocabulary, Connectives, Openers, Punctuation).*
- *high and consistent expectations of all staff, students and parents and carers*
- *prioritise positive relationships between staff and students, recognising the fundamental role this plays in building and sustaining student wellbeing*
- *creating a culture that is inclusive, engaging and supportive*
- *welcoming all parents/carers and being responsive to them as partners in learning*
- *analysing and being responsive to a range of school data such as attendance, Attitudes to School Survey, parent survey data, student management data and school level assessment data*
- *teachers at Nangiloc Colignan and District Primary School adopt a broad range of teaching and assessment approaches to effectively respond to the diverse learning styles, strengths and needs of our students and follow the standards set by the Victorian Institute of Teaching*
- *our school's Statement of Values are promoted to students, staff and parents so that they are shared and celebrated as the foundation of our school community*
- *carefully planned transition programs to support students moving into different stages of their schooling*
- *positive behaviour and student achievement is acknowledged in the classroom, and formally in school assemblies and communication to parents*
- *monitor student attendance and implement attendance improvement strategies at a whole-school, cohort and individual level*
- *create opportunities for cross—age connections amongst students through school plays, athletics, music programs and peer support programs*
- *we engage in school wide positive behaviour support with our staff and students, which includes programs such as:*
  - *Respectful Relationships*
  - *Bully Stoppers*
  - *Safe Schools*
- *programs, incursions and excursions developed to address issue specific behaviour (i.e. anger management program)*
- *opportunities for student inclusion (i.e. sports teams, clubs, recess and lunchtime activities)*
- *buddy programs, peers support programs*
- *PIN (Passions, Interests, Needs). This programme aims to encourage students, parents and staff to participate in workshops that follow their personal passions, interests and needs. Students have the option of running their own workshop (supported by an adult if needed) or signing up to a workshop run by another member of the school community. This programme occurs once a fortnight on a Friday afternoon.*

### Targeted

- *connect all Koorie students with a Koorie Engagement Support Officer*
- *staff will apply a trauma-informed approach to working with students who have experienced trauma*
- *Physiological support provided to students with additional needs regarding mental health and wellbeing.*

## Individual

- *Student Support Groups, see:*  
*<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/participation/pages/supportgroups.aspx>*
- *Individual Learning Plan and Behaviour Support Plan*
- *Program for Students with Disabilities*
- *referral to Student Welfare Coordinator and Student Support Services*
- *referral to ChildFirst, Headspace*
- *Lookout*

*Nangiloc Colignan and District Primary School implements a range of strategies that support and promote individual engagement. These 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, for example changing the classroom set up*
- *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 ChildFirst*
  - *Re-engagement programs such as Navigator*

*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.*

#### **4. Identifying students in need of support**

*Nangiloc Colignan and District 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. Nangiloc Colignan and District 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*

## **5. 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.

## **6. 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 Nangiloc Colignan and District Primary School's Bullying policy.*

*When a student acts in breach of the behaviour standards of our school community, Nangiloc Colignan and District 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 Principal*
- *restorative practices*
- *detentions*
- *behaviour reviews*
- *suspension*
- *expulsion*

Suspension and expulsion are measures of last resort and may only be used in particular situations consistent with Department policy, available at:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/participation/pages/engagement.aspx>

Corporal punishment is prohibited in our school and will not be used in any circumstance.

## **7. Engaging with families**

Nangiloc Colignan and District 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.

## **8. Evaluation**

Nangiloc Colignan and District 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

- SOCS

## **FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES**

[Include links where possible to your related policies including *Statement of Values and School Philosophy, Bullying Prevention, Child Safe Standards*, etc].

## **REVIEW CYCLE**

This policy was last updated on [25/02/2021] and is scheduled for review in [25/02/2022].