POLICY OVERVIEW: STUDENT ENGAGEMENT 2013-2014

1. Introduction:
The Student Engagement Policy focuses on prevention and early intervention for students experiencing behavioural and/or attendance-related issues. It sets out the rights, responsibilities and shared expectations of everyone in our school community - students, parents/carers, teachers and staff. Members of the school community have provided input into the development of the policy.

This document provides an overview of the Student Engagement Policy. The full version of the policy is available at www.chilwellps.vic.edu.au and a copy is on display in the school office foyer.

2. Rationale:
Student wellbeing and student learning outcomes are inextricably linked. Students can reach their full educational potential only when they are happy, healthy and safe, and when there is a positive school culture to engage and support them in their learning. Evidence suggests that better outcomes are achieved by taking a whole school approach to students experiencing difficulties. Behaviour, attendance and engagement are interrelated elements of a student’s participation in class. Taking a more holistic approach to student engagement is more effective in ensuring students feel safe and supported at school, and achieve the best learning outcomes they can.

3. Aims:
The Student Engagement Policy aims to:
- Promote positive school cultures and increase student well-being and learning outcomes;
- Outline the rights, responsibilities and shared expectations of everyone in the school community; and
- Detail the actions/consequences for those students whose behaviour and/or attendance is of concern.

4. Overview of Student Engagement Policy:
The Student Engagement Policy is a whole school approach to behaviour management that promotes and targets positive, respectful behaviour, and outlines an agreed response when behaviour is considered inappropriate, aggressive, or is identified as bullying.

The Student Engagement Policy focuses on prevention and early intervention for students who are experiencing behavioural or attendance related issues. The policy contains:
- A school profile statement;
- A whole school prevention statement that details the range of school programs aimed at preventing absences and inappropriate behaviour;
- Rights and responsibilities for students, teachers and parents/carers;
- Shared expectations for all school community stakeholders; and
- Actions/consequences for those students who behaviour and/or attendance is of concern.

The Student Engagement Policy is published in the Staff Handbook each year and a brochure outlining the policy is given to new families and Prep students at the beginning of the school year.

5. Ratified:
This policy overview has been ratified by School Council – March 2013

Review: 2 yearly