# Strategies to Promote Child Empowerment and Participation – Tallygaroopna PS



Overview of existing resources used at our to school

Child Safe Standard 7 (Standard 7) requires schools to develop strategies to deliver appropriate education about:

- standards of behaviour for students attending the school;
- healthy and respectful relationships (including sexuality);
- resilience; and
- child abuse awareness and prevention.

Ministerial Order 870 also requires schools to promote the Child Safe Standards in ways that are readily accessible, easy to understand, and user-friendly to children.

# In preparing for compliance schools are expected to:

- **Identify** the proposed school actions and associated timeframe, per Standard 1, to deliver appropriate education about: standards of behaviours for students attending school; healthy and respectful relationships (including sexuality); resilience; and child abuse awareness and prevention.
- **Identify** the proposed school actions and associated timeframe, per Standard 1, to promote the Child Safe Standards in ways that are readily accessible, easy to understand, and user-friendly for children.

#### Resources to support standards of behaviour for students attending the school

## **Student Engagement Policy**

Our school has a Student Engagement Policy which provides the basis on which we develop and maintain a safe, supportive and inclusive school environment.

As part of this, our Student Engagement Policy articulates the expectations and aspirations of the school community in relation to student engagement, including strategies to address bullying, school attendance and behaviour.

Our school's policy is developed in consultation with the wider school community including school leaders, teachers, students and parents.

http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/participation/Pages/policydev.aspx

## Resources to support healthy and respectful relationships (including sexuality)

## Health education policies (ie: First Aid, Sun Smart, Medication, Head Lice, Asthma...etc)

School councils develop health education policies to support the health messages being delivered within the classroom and with school community input: students, parents and teachers. All school staff must:

- be conscious of issues related to the disclosure of personal information
- give careful consideration prior to approval of collection of sensitive information
- not promote their own personal preferences
- select health education materials with care.

## **Sexuality education**

Comprehensive, inclusive sexuality education is a compulsory part of a school's health education curriculum, taught and assessed by teachers.

The promotion of sexual health is a responsibility shared between schools, the local health and welfare community, and parents. School-based sexuality education programs are more effective when they are developed in consultation with parents and the local community. Learning and teaching in sexuality education should be developmentally appropriate.

Schools must support and respect sexuality diversity including same sex attraction. See: Supporting Diversity in Schools (PDF - 119Kb) (pdf - 119.04kb).

For more information on:

- sexuality education see: Catching On-line
- sexuality diversity inclusion in sexuality education see: Supporting Diversity in Schools (PDF 119Kb) (pdf 119.04kb)

#### Life Education Van

Life Education provides a unique learning experience for children instilling in them the skills needed to make informed decisions about their health and wellbeing, covering topics including: Body Knowledge, Safety, Nutrition, Physical Activity, Relationships, Medicines, Cybersafety, Decision Making, Tobacco and Alcohol.

Website

#### First Aid in Schools Program

The knowledge and skills gained in the First Aid in Schools Program develops First Aid awareness in school children and contributes to building a more resilient community. This learning is age-appropriate and integrates with the Victorian Essential Learning Standards (VELS) curriculum. This free Program is delivered by St John Ambulance Professional Trainers, teaching primary school students on the importance of First Aid and what to do in an event of an emergency.

Website

#### **E Smart**

eSmart Schools provides a framework that guides the introduction of policies, practices and whole-school change processes to support the creation of a cyber safe or eSmart environment. An eSmart school is a school where the smart, safe and responsible use of information and communications technology is a cultural norm. Students, teachers and the wider school community are equipped to embrace the best these technologies can offer, while being savvy about the pitfalls.

Website

#### **Swimming Program**

Swimming is an integral and essential part of the physical education program. Becoming a confident and competent swimmer is essential to student safety, as well as increasing opportunities for both leisure and sporting pursuits. The aim of our school is to develop confident and competent swimmers who display the skills, knowledge and confidence required to enjoy swimming and other aquatic activities in safety.

Website

# Sink or Swim Program

Life Saving Victoria's Sink or Swim program teaches students about water safety from the expertise of a surf lifesaver. The interactive 1 hour program empowers students of all ages to keep themselves and others safe in a range of aquatic environments including beaches, rivers, lakes, pools and the home, through engaging practical activities. Sink or Swim enhances our school's water safety program and prepares students for upcoming aquatic recreation excursions and camps.

Website

## Resources to support resilience

#### **Bounce Back**

The BOUNCE BACK! Wellbeing & Resilience Program addresses the environmental building blocks and the personal skills for fostering resilience in children and young people. The program focuses mainly on the teaching of coping skills to help children and young people respond positively to the complexity of their everyday lives. In other words, children are taught how to 'bounce back' after experiencing sadness, difficulties, frustrations and hard times.

Website

#### Building Resilience: A model to support children and young people

Building Resilience: A Model to Support Children and Young People provides an evidence-based approach to developing social and emotional learning skills and enhancing resilience. It recommends taking a multi-dimensional, school-wide approach to supporting resilience and engagement, which has a positive impact on social and academic outcomes.

This Model has been developed in an online portal, designed to help schools easily access programs, tools and resources which support resilience building in children and young people. http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/department/Pages/resilienceframework.aspx

# **Respectful Relationships**

As educators we share a common purpose – to provide our students with an education that gives each child the best start to a happy, healthy and prosperous life.

Victoria's Respectful Relationship initiative supports school leaders, educators and our school communities to promote and model respect and equality – and to teach our children how to build healthy relationships, resilience and confidence.

The Royal Commission into Family Violence identified the critical role that schools have in creating a culture of respect to change the story of family violence for future generations. In 2016, respectful relationship education became a core component of the Victorian Curriculum from Prep to Year 12, and is being taught in all government and Catholic schools and many independent schools.

# **Kids Helpline - Polycom**

This is available to the whole school and is an online resource talking to trained personnel who deal with issues relating to:

Being a School Leader Developing Resilience Friendship Feeling Sad Handling Arguments at Home Worry

#### **Student Voice**

Tallygaroopna Primary School provides students with many opportunities and processes to develop empowerment and participation. These are summarised as:

School Leadership (Captains / Vice Captains)

Junior School Council

Buddies Program Every Face Has a Place

Random Acts of Kindnesss Resource Smart Roles – recycling..etc

**Celebration Wall** 

#### Resources to support child abuse awareness and prevention

## **Bravehearts Personal Safety Program**

It is the responsibility for any organisation that has a duty of care to children and young people, to prioritise regular child protection learning for staff and volunteers. In addition to this, promotion of personal safety messages for children and young people is vital. This also extends to parents/carers and families who are part of your organisation's wider community. Bravehearts specialise in developing child protection learning programs that address the unique needs of a variety of organisations that provide services to children and young people.

#### Website

#### **Evaluation:**

This document will be reviewed as part of the school's four year review cycle. This document was last ratified by School Council in....

Prepared by David Brodie Endorsed by School Council Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2020 (reviewed annually)

# Some Relevant Child Safe Policies at Tallygaroopna PS include:

Asthma Behaviour Management Bullying
Critical Incident Duty of Care E Smart

First Aid Head Lice Medical Conditions

On Site Supervision Student Welfare Sun Smart

Visitors WWCC