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# PEER SUPPORT PROGRAM POLICY

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*Let Your Light Shine*

**2016**  
to be reviewed  
**2018**

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## ***RATIONALE***

The Peer Support Program provides students with the opportunity and environment to develop the understanding, attitudes and skills they need to live a safe and healthy lifestyle, realise their potential and contribute positively to society.

The Peer Support Program develops leadership skills and provides leadership opportunities for Year 6 students.

## ***OUTCOMES***

The Peer Support Program develops skills in:

- maintaining self esteem
- self awareness
- self confidence
- effective communication
- decision making
- problem solving
- assertiveness
- conflict resolution

## ***BENEFITS OF THE PROGRAM***

### **For the students**

- They have a more active role in their welfare.
- They accept responsibility for, and ownership of, their own behaviour and learning.
- They are given the opportunity to succeed in a group and develop support networks.
- They integrate their learning into their lives.
- Enhanced connection to school and peers
- Enjoyment.

### **For the school**

- Builds positive relationships amongst students between teachers and students.
- Provides a core of trained and skilled leaders who can contribute to the school community.
- Complements other whole school programs.

### **For the school community**

- Builds a culture which prevents violence or harassment based on race, gender or ability.
- Fosters diversity.
- Promotes acceptance and cooperation across the school community.
- Provides a core of trained and skilled leaders who can contribute to school community initiatives.

## ***THE PROGRAM AND CURRICULM LINKS***

PD/H/PE  
English  
Human Society and Its Environment  
Drug Education  
Aboriginal and Multicultural Education

## **PD/H/PE LINKS**

Growth and Development  
Interpersonal Relationships.  
Personal awareness.  
Personal choice.  
Safe living.

## **PASTORAL CARE LINKS**

Integration of students with special needs.  
Child Protection.  
Gender Equity.  
Anti-violence.  
Multicultural initiatives.

## **TIME ALLOCATION**

One term per year – Term 2, 30 mins per week

## **GROUP LEADERS**

Teachers as supervisors.  
One to two Year 6 students to lead a group of children from Years K-5.

## **GROUPS**

Groups will be comprised of....  
1-2 Year 6 Student Leaders and students each from K/1/2/3/4/5

## **GROUP AREAS**

One group per area to avoid distractions.  
Locations will include:  
Staff room  
Classrooms  
Library  
Ozanam

## **TASKS**

**Modules** to be selected from the Peer Support Manual.

## ***BUDGET***

To set an appropriate amount from within the school budget that will ensure the effectiveness of this Policy.

## ***EVALUATION***

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years or as required by CSO or Board of Studies amendments. The Assistant Principal is responsible for the co-ordination of policy reviews.