**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.