FCPS Student Engagement and Well-Being Policy

**Rationale:**
Ferny Creek Primary School endeavours to promote a healthy, supportive and secure environment for all children and to raise awareness of what makes students resilient, to develop strategies to reduce at risk behaviours, to build student/school connectedness, and to increase coping skills. A positive school culture ensures that students feel valued and cared for, have meaningful opportunities to contribute to the school and can effectively engage with their learning. Ferny Creek Primary School aims to be an effective school, engaging and inclusive, recognising and responding to the diverse needs of our students and their different learning profiles.

**Goals:**
1. Encourage students to be responsible for the outcome of their own actions and to accept the consequences of their behaviour.
2. Promote respect, caring and positive relationships between all individuals and groups within the school community.
3. Build a sense of belonging that promotes well-being and an awareness of a student’s rights and responsibilities.
4. Provide an environment to strengthen each student’s ability to cope, build resilience and reduce risk.
5. Provide support services and programs for students at risk, where necessary.
6. Staff show confidence, skill and are proactive in the management of student wellbeing issues.
7. Communication processes and protocols are clear and well known to ensure the effectiveness of student support.

**Implementation:**
1. Student Engagement and Wellbeing and is a shared responsibility between school, home and the community.
2. The school will appoint a staff member who will coordinate student engagement and wellbeing across the school.
3. The school will show a proactive and strategic stance with all issues student issues.
4. **Corporal punishment is prohibited in all Victorian schools and must not be used under any circumstances.**
5. The school will implement support structures and programs which prioritise and address the identified needs of individual students or the school as a whole and that help implement the aims of the policy. Refer to: **Ferny Creek Primary School Student Engagement Statement**
6. The school will endeavour to implement and maintain programs such as: -
   - Restorative Practices
   - A Valued Start
   - Values and Mantras
   - Peer Support
   - Buddies

7. The school will provide the following support structures:
   - Monitoring of, and responding to, protracted student absences
   - Trauma Management plan
   - Protocol for Mandatory Reporting
   - Student Support Group’s for children in need
   - Attitudes to school type surveys from P-6

8. The school will also access outside services to provide support for students and staff which include:
   - Psychologist for psychological and academic assessment
   - Mentors – providing support for ‘at risk’ children
   - Department of Human Services case managers and support workers
   - Social Workers to provide services such as counselling, social skills and anger management programs
   - Youth agencies
   - CYMS
   - Local parent support groups
   - Relevant DET support staff
   - C.A.S.A. [Centre Against Sexual Assault]
   - School Nurse

9. The school will endeavour to cater for:
   - Children identified with specific welfare issues by creating support groups, developing appropriate individual programs including goals, monitoring performance and behaviour, and providing ongoing support.

10. Longitudinal data will be collected regarding frequency and types of wellbeing issues, so as to measure the success or otherwise of school-based strategies and approaches.

11. Our school will comply with all privacy issues in accordance with current legislation and departmental requirements – see separate Privacy policy.

**Evaluation and Review**
This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s four-year review cycle.

**Budget**
Coordinator to manage a yearly budget following school budget protocols

**Author/Responsibility/Date**
EPP/M. Coyle/2011 (amended for review 2014)