



Students at Risk

Rationale

- Some children will enter school with an identified need for which they are eligible for funding under the Program for Children with Disabilities.
- Some children may be identified through the school referral process and relevant testing to be emotionally, socially or academically at risk.
- This need may emerge sometime after the student has commenced school.
- Disability funding may or may not transfer with the student from the feeder primary school.

Purpose

- To ensure Essendon Keilor College has a specific plan to engage children at risk and to cater for their needs.
- To ensure the school complies with DET policy and guidelines.
- To ensure the College complies with Child Safe Standards 1 & 2.

Definitions

“Children at Risk” are children who have been identified with special learning needs and require alternative consideration and program modification for them to reach their potential.

Implementation

- The safety and wellbeing of young people is the highest priority for the College.
- The school will establish a formal collaborative process for referral of children suspected of being at risk.
- If the school receives a student deemed at risk, the Principal will perform a risk assessment and develop an Action Plan that involves parents, staff, guidance officers, the student and any other party.
Note: Where there is a foreseeable risk, the transferring Principal is required to collect evidence from student records, CASES21 incident reports, student program information or other relevant information provided by school staff and update the transfer note with the circumstances relevant to the risk such as known triggers that escalate the risk and actions known to lessen or remove the risk.
Parents/carers must be informed, but their consent is not required for documenting foreseeable risk information or including this information on the transfer note.
Privacy provisions require that staff keep the information confidential.
- If deemed appropriate, external agencies will be engaged to provide professional input into the identification of the needs of the student.
- All children at risk will be supported through a Student Support Group (SSG).
- The parent/carer and student if applicable, and all persons working with the child will be members.
- The SSG will meet at least twice yearly for the purpose of developing and/or reviewing the student’s Individual Learning Plan.
- Please refer also to the school’s *Student Engagement Policy* and the *Student Wellbeing & Learning Policy*.

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s three-year review cycle or if guidelines change (no current DET A-Z Index reference).