

CANTERBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL

4.17 SAFETY AND WELLBEING OF STUDENTS LEARNING WITH AN EXTERNAL PROVIDER

PREAMBLE

Canterbury Primary School aims to create and maintain a learning environment that facilitates development of the whole person and to promote a healthy, supportive and secure environment for all students. The school offers programs to enable students to further their learning by complementing classroom lessons with experts and resources from outside the immediate school community.

All students have the right to feel safe in the framework of the programs offered by Canterbury Primary School and in those offered by external providers.

GOALS

The school is a positive environment in which all teachers assume responsibility for student wellbeing, endeavouring to provide successful experiences for all students, where students feel and are safe and secure in a supportive environment and where a sense of belonging and wellbeing is strengthened.

The students will learn in a variety of contexts.

GUIDELINES

1. The school may access outside services to support for students and staff which may include: psychologists, speech pathologists, occupational therapists, counsellors, teachers, mentors, tutors, social workers.
2. The School Council must approve all external providers. Coordination of the external providers will rest with the Principal Class Officers
3. All external providers must meet all regulatory requirements. The school will ensure regulations relating to VIT registration, appropriate qualifications and supervision will be observed. Where the school deems a learning environment to be in accordance with the learning, social and emotional development of the student, and where staff do not have VIT registration, a Working with Children card will be required.
4. The School Council will ensure that professional indemnity, public liability, building and contents and any other necessary insurance to cover the needs of the programs offered by external providers is met by the provider if offered off site.
5. Students will attend programmes offered by external providers only with the express prior written consent of their parents.
6. Guidelines and checklists are to be considered by all staff when utilising external providers (Appendix)
7. All external providers must sign the Canterbury Primary School Child Safe Code of Conduct.

STATUS: RATIFIED BY SCHOOL COUNCIL - NOVEMBER 2016

APPENDIX – GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR WORKING WITH EXTERNAL PROVIDERS

External providers approved/accepted by the school should:

- be appropriately qualified or trained for their specific activity
- evaluate their programs or presentations
- be cost effective
- enhance the role of the teacher not replace it
- be consistent with school policies
- align with current practice, principles and research where appropriate
- consider socioeconomic, cultural and/or religious issues.

Teacher checklist

- Can people within the school provide a similar service?
- Do you have the support of the principal, the staff and the relevant committees?
- Have parents been consulted?
- Have the age and developmental level of the students, the content and the resources been considered?
- Has a planning session with the presenter been conducted?
- What feedback will be given to the presenter?
- What are the costs?

Qualified or trained external providers:

- have formal qualifications or relevant experience
- use performance indicators to evaluate the effectiveness of their programs
- have a good knowledge of appropriate resources
- are adept in working with/through relevant school committees.

External providers who have an understanding of current practice, approaches and research:

- link learning with educational outcomes as outlined in the school program
- engage in planning with the teacher
- enhance the central role of the teacher

External providers are to consider socioeconomic, cultural and religious issues:

- use information about student cultural experiences to create an atmosphere respectful of cultural diversity
- have well-established and acceptable positions on particular issues which are consistent with the values promoted by the school.