

ELTHAM HIGH SCHOOL

POLICY DOCUMENT

Student Engagement and Inclusion Policy

Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the school office at 03 9430 5111.

INTRODUCTION

Eltham High School prides itself on being a safe and welcoming school for everyone – regardless of gender, identity, cultural background or family circumstances. We believe everyone has the right to a great education. Eltham High School is committed to providing a strong foundation for students' learning through a whole-school approach to student engagement and wellbeing.

Student engagement, wellbeing, welfare and discipline issues are the collective responsibility of all members of the school community. This is an environment where we aim to work together to ensure that the school's values and expectations are able to be met and are able to be expressed in a range of forms: this includes the promotion of shared expectations that clearly embody the school values, which ensure rights are being protected and reasonable expectations of behaviour in the school community are being demonstrated.

PHILOSOPHY

The Student Engagement and Inclusion Policy is underpinned by the school's Purpose Statement: *At Eltham High School each person feels safe to be themselves; and each person is challenged to think critically, to work hard, to show leadership, and achieve success along many pathways.* This philosophy embodies a long tradition of an inclusive environment and the value that the school places on individuality. The development of personal and social responsibility are the primary aims of the policy. It is based on the following principles:

- Individuals will be valued and respected; they will be treated with courtesy and without discrimination.
- The school will be a supportive, safe and stimulating learning environment.
- School decision-making processes will be collaborative and will foster co-operation.
- The right to individual needs of students when planning curriculum and in the implementation of that curriculum. The school will actively promote students' physical and mental wellbeing by providing an environment that is safe, non-threatening and free from discrimination. The school will sustain

