Wellbeing for learning and life

Warwick State High School’s commitment to learning and wellbeing

LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

A positive school ethos and rich learning environment that is open, respectful, caring and safe optimises learning through a commitment to wellbeing.

**Warwick State High School does this by:**
- providing an environment where students can experience success on a daily basis and high expectations are the norm.
- having an explicit positive school ethos as demonstrated in its school motto, “Excellence through Effort – becoming clever, skilled and creative global citizens.”
- being committed to developing students who will be socially competent and reinforcing our vision, values and beliefs through assemblies, award nights and publications.
- including Indigenous perspectives in curriculum across all year levels.
- using year level events to encourage positive relationships between students, teachers and parents e.g. Meet and Greets.
- taking advantage of informal interactions that occur between students, past students and parents in the extracurricular programs to build the school culture.
- developing a Responsible Behaviour Plan for students, in collaboration with the school community promoting high standards of behaviour to protect learning and teaching including the School Wide Positive Behaviour program and encouraging families to read and discuss the Plan.
- taking into account individual circumstances of students when applying behaviour support or consequences for inappropriate behaviour.
- promoting the school Core Values of – Respect, Co-operation, Equity, Positive Attitudes Towards Work and Accountability for Actions and Outcomes encouraging interactions and establishing positive relationships between students, teachers, parents.
- providing peer support mentoring for year 8 students by trained year 11 and 12 students.
- preparing to implement the Mind Matters Program.
- employing dedicated Student Wellbeing Team comprising Guidance Officer, Community Education Counsellor, School-based Youth Health Nurse, Chaplain, Youth Support Coordinators, Attendance Officer, Junior Secondary/ Senior Secondary HODs.

CURRICULUM AND PEDAGOGY

Curriculum that enhances wellbeing equips students with the knowledge, skills, attitudes and strategies to understand and manage themselves and their relationships. Pedagogy that enhances wellbeing builds positive relationships.

**Warwick State High School does this by:**
- offering focused curriculum and extra-curricular programs that develop and maximise students’ potential
- embedding core values into the curriculum
- developing responsible thinking, ensuring that students take ownership of their own learning and behaviours and accept consequences
- offering diverse and enriched programs, providing all students opportunities to perform to the best of their ability and develop their talents in academic, cultural, sporting and citizenship pursuits.
- providing fully equipped facilities to accommodate all programs and students, including alternative learning spaces and full wireless connectivity.
- including social and emotional learning as the central component of pastoral care program.
- providing professional development in Mind Matters.
- ensuring the pastoral care program is reviewed annually.
- ensuring that core values are explicitly taught throughout the curriculum
- having differentiated curriculum and pedagogy with a focus on the individual using data to drive decisions
- providing professional development for staff which is focussed on High Order Thinking and its role in the development of the whole individual
- having awards and reward days for students every semester to acknowledge those students who live by the school’s vision and values.
- ensuring that all curriculum and co and extra curricular programs (eg school musical) focus on team work, communication, success, problem solving, conflict resolution, time management, stress management and resilience.
- providing opportunities for leadership across all year levels and providing training opportunities to develop capacity.
- Promoting student/teacher relationships with teachers continuing with class groups over subsequent years.

*The mention of specific organisation, programs or resources does not imply that they are endorsed by the Department of Education and Training.*
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Policy intentions are transformed into action by school staff, students and the wider community.

Warwick State High School does this by:
• providing students with opportunities to raise issues and voice opinions about policies, teaching and learning and other operational procedures within the school through student forums, surveys and Student Representative Council.
• organising school events which foster involvement in school policies (e.g. cybersafety evening for parents)
• encouraging students as well as staff to consistently reinforce expectations of positive behaviour and respectful attitudes.
• having a comprehensive student support network within the school and with external agencies
• having a clear process for standards of behaviour and responding to unacceptable behaviour
• involving, consulting and supporting parents through work with the P&C. Equipping parents with skills to effectively support their children’s education (Reading Program).
• adopting the Mind Matters framework.
• consulting widely with the school community through parent forums, review processes and surveys to inform policy development.
• clearly defining roles for all members of the school community.
• setting and maintaining high expectations of conduct, respectful attitudes and performance.
• providing students opportunities to take part in Human Relationships Programs eg. Anti-bullying program, Shine program,’Boystalk’, Brainstorm Productions on cyber bullying,’Verbal Contact’, ‘The Hurting Game’, ‘Putting Youth in the Picture’ ‘Lovebites’, Say No To Bullying, peer mediation, Harmony Day, Closing the Gap Day and more.
• Using a positive behaviour system, including awards and rewards

PARTNERSHIPS

Productive partnerships expand the knowledge, skills and resources available in the school

Warwick State High School does this by:
• encouraging parent participation in the school through the P&C.
• accessing support to students through external networks including a variety of Government and community agencies.
• engaging parents and community members through a variety of regular communication.
• fostering close partnerships with cluster schools.
• conducting parent and community forums.
• linking closely with the local Indigenous population through home visits, ‘Meet and Greets’ and developing a ‘round table’ structure.
• providing a diverse range of pathways for students to the world of work through work experience, structured work placement and school based apprenticeships and traineeships.
• sharing the school facilities with various community groups through a hire system.
• engaging parents in the school through a variety of means of regular communication (e.g. emails, text messages, newsletters, parent-teacher interviews and structured phone calls home from teaching staff)
• establishing and maintaining a range of university links for direct entry.
• utilising the proud traditions and history of the school and the close Warwick community to provide opportunities for extra and co curricular events and activities.
• developing a ‘parent place’ on the school web site and as a mobile phone ‘app’ containing tips, information and advice on parents supporting students learning and wellbeing.

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