

RESPECTFUL RELATIONS AND SAFE BEHAVIOUR POLICY



“The school is a sanctuary of trust and caring; within its bounds we all share equal rights and obligations.”

RATIONALE: OUR COMMITMENT TO CHILD AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

South Melbourne Primary School is committed to child and community safety. We also support the principles of respectful relationships as they relate to quelling the rise of domestic violence.

We believe all children have the right to learn in a safe and secure learning environment. We are committed to supporting children to adopt positive behaviours and work with families to ensure consistent expectations are met. We support and respect all children, as well as our staff and volunteers, and we are committed to providing a safe environment for all persons at South Melbourne Primary School.

AIMS OF THIS POLICY:

- Brief outline of the School Wide Positive Behaviour System at South Melbourne Primary School
- Outline the school-wide approach to student behaviours that are unsafe to themselves and/or others

BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT AT SMPS

The purpose of this policy is to outline the process that the teachers and leadership team at South Melbourne Primary School will follow if a student’s behaviour is unsafe for themselves or other people around them. South Melbourne Primary School is committed to having a safe and orderly environment for all. To encourage positive behaviours and respond to problem behaviours we follow the ‘School Wide Positive Behaviour Support’ system (SWPBS) which is a whole-school framework endorsed by the Department of Education. SWPBS has been developed on data and evidence that provides schools with the most effective ways to improve behaviour in schools.

The behaviour system at South Melbourne Primary School, in line with SWPBS framework, is named the 6R System. The system has 5 Zones: Ready, Refocus, Relocate, Reflect and Remove

Underlining all 5 Zones is the 6th R which is ‘Restore’. This is the process of mending broken relationships or discussing behaviours to allow students to discuss behaviours, learn from mistakes and reengage with the curriculum and carry on with their day.

DISMISSAL, SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION.

A student may be excluded from school in situations where all other measures have been implemented without success, or where an immediate suspension is the only appropriate course of action in response to the student’s behaviour which may put the health, safety and well-being of other students, staff or themselves at significant risk. This will include students who have displayed behaviours that prohibit them from being reintroduced to the learning environment OR have continued to display unsafe behaviours that require them to be removed on more than one occasion during the day and the following process will occur:

- Student will be removed from the learning space by leadership and taken to the office
- A parent or guardian will be phoned to advise that the student is required to be picked up within 1 hour.
- If student is not picked up within the 1-hour time frame, the student will automatically be required to remain at home the following day as part of a suspension
- Upon return, the student and parent/guardian will be required to have a meeting with leadership and the classroom teacher to discuss expectations for positive reintegration.

SAFETY SUPPORT PLAN:

Teachers follow the 6R System in class and in the yard to respond to minor, problem behaviours. The behaviour system accommodates more major behaviours and these are supported by a member of the leadership team, which may be outside of the learning neighbourhood. In the case of a major behaviour which is unsafe to a student or to others around them, the school will create a Safety Support Plan to support that student and ensure the environment is safe and orderly. If a child has displayed unsafe behaviours a meeting will be requested with the parents/guardian to share the Safety Support Plan.

GUIDELINES FOR SAFETY SUPPORT PLAN:

Unsafe behaviours may include; hitting, kicking, throwing objects, threatening behaviour, verbal abuse. This list is not exhaustive.

The team supporting the child (Classroom Teacher, Leading Teacher and Principal) will develop the plan to ensure the student and others are safe at South Melbourne PS. The Safety Support Plan will include:

- Observed unsafe behaviours
- Behaviour Expectations of the student to ensure a safe and orderly environment for all
- Management and support strategies for the classroom, yard duty, start/end of day and excursions/camps
- Obligations of the school and the strategies being used to promote positive behaviours
- Obligations of the parent/guardians to support the child and the school

The safety plan will be shared in a meeting and attendees will be asked to sign and date the plan. The Safety Support Plan will be reviewed during the term (the exact date for review will be stipulated on the plan itself)

In the case that a student's behaviour is unsafe and the school has followed the school's behaviour system (6Rs) and has followed the process outlined in the student's Safety Support* Plan, parents will be contacted and requested to pick their child up within 1 hour of the school making the call. The child and parents will have a reintegration meeting upon the child's return to school, which will be specified on pick up.

*The school may ask parents to collect their child if the child is displaying unsafe behaviours even if the child does not have a Safety Support Plan in place at the time.

REFERENCES

- SMPS Values Statement
- Student Safety Plan
- Family Enrolment Agreement Policy

6Rs Classroom Behaviour Support at SMPS



SEVERE OR REPEATED BEHAVIOURS – “SEND HOME” SCENARIOS

- If a child has been removed once in the day to the Leading Teacher, and is reintegrated back to their class – but the behaviour continues - parents will be called and expected to be at the school within 1 hour of the phone call
- If a child is highly aggressive, physically or verbally abusive or does not follow direct instruction, all of the above steps may be bypassed and the parents called to come along to the school to support within 1 hour.
- The school may use the “Suspend” and ultimately “Expel” functions should the behaviour continue or be particularly severe

Remove – Actions After Child is Removed or Sent Home

