Rationale

* The school philosophy underpins and guides our curriculum (what children learn), pedagogy (how they learn), assessment (where they are up to in their learning) and reporting (the feedback we give to children and their families on learning progress and what they need to learn next).
* As part of the state education system, the school has an obligation to be consistent with DET policies and guidelines.

Purpose

* To ensure that staff and the community understand the philosophic underpinning for programs and activities at Bayside P-12 College.
* To ensure the school complies with DET policies and guidelines.
* To ensure the College has strategies in place to support the Child Safe Standards 1 & 2.

Implementation

* Bayside P-12 College will strive to create a vibrant local learning community at each of its three campuses.
* We will ensure that learning experiences recognise, value and build on children’s diverse backgrounds and experiences.
* Improving children’s learning will be at the core of our work. We will ensure that every child is challenged and supported to meet their potential, no matter what their stage on the learning journey, based on a deep understanding of their individual learning profile and the next steps they require.
* Equity and inclusion will be paramount - providing quality learning opportunities for all children, with a particular emphasis on ensuring that the most vulnerable and disadvantaged are effectively engaged.
* We will empower and protect our children who are vital and active participants in the school by involving them when making decisions, especially about matters that directly affect them. We will listen to their views and respect what they have to say.
* We will promote diversity and tolerance, and people from all walks of life and cultural backgrounds are welcome. In particular we will:
* promote the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of Aboriginal children (if applicable)
* promote the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds
* ensure that children with a disability are safe and can participate equally in all aspects of school life
* High expectations are non-negotiable.
* We will foster a culture of accountability within the local community.
* Performance expectations will be clear and consistent with open and transparent assessment.
* Programs will be based on our school values. Actions will be measured against these values.
* Pedagogy will be based on contemporary educational practices.
* Teachers will deliver a program based on explicit instruction that scaffolds learning for children.
* Staff will be provided with a range of professional learning opportunities to further enhance their capacity to improve learning outcomes.
* As part of our succession planning, leaders and prospective leaders will have opportunities to enhance their leadership potential.
* Please refer also to the school’s *Performance and Development Policy*, the *Framework for Improving Student Outcomes Policy*, the *Curriculum Policy,* the *Assessment* and the *Reporting to Parents* *Policies*, the *Children at Risk Policy* and the *Vision, Mission and Values Polic*y.

Evaluation

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

Ratification

This update was ratified by College Council on 15th February, 2018.

References

Professional Practice & Performance for Improved Learning: School Accountability and the Professional Practice & Performance for Improved Learning: Overview (December 2013)

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/>[www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/pages/saif.aspx](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/pages/saif.aspx)