



Marian College Ararat

Wellbeing and Community Policy

Introduction	<p>Wellbeing refers to the holistic development of young people, encompassing their spiritual, emotional, social and academic growth. It is grounded in the belief that every student has inherent dignity and the capacity to flourish when supported within a safe, inclusive and nurturing environment. When wellbeing is prioritised, students are better able to form positive relationships, build resilience, and engage deeply in their learning.</p> <p>Pastoral care is the practical expression of this commitment to wellbeing. It refers to the support provided to students to foster their holistic development as young people. It encompasses the total care of students and addresses both academic and non-academic needs, including spiritual, emotional, social and academic wellbeing. Marian College recognises that student wellbeing is fundamental to learning.</p>
Purpose	The purpose of Wellbeing and Community Policy to set out how Wellbeing is supported through a whole-school approach that prioritises respectful relationships, positive behaviour, student voice and early intervention. These practices align with contemporary wellbeing frameworks and the Victorian Child Safe Standards, ensuring that student safety and wellbeing remain central to the life of the College. The College recognises the importance of strong peer connections and supportive relationships with staff in helping students feel safe, connected and valued within the school community.
Scope	This policy applies to staff and students at Marian College.
Policy Statement	<p>Marian College is committed to providing a safe, inclusive and supportive learning environment where all students are known, respected and supported to flourish. The College actively promotes the social, emotional, spiritual and academic wellbeing of students through a comprehensive pastoral care framework that is grounded in restorative practices, positive education, and evidence-informed wellbeing approaches. Marian College supports students to develop respectful relationships, resilience and a strong sense of belonging. The College also ensures that students are empowered to understand their rights, recognise unsafe situations, and seek support when needed.</p> <p>Age-appropriate education is provided to students about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● healthy and respectful relationships● consent and personal boundaries

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● resilience and coping with adversity ● child abuse awareness and a child’s right to be safe ● body autonomy and personal privacy ● how to raise concerns about safety, abuse or harm ● expected standards of behaviour as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct and Child Safeguarding Codes of Conduct. <p>Information about child safety and wellbeing is communicated to students through pastoral care programs, wellbeing curriculum, assemblies, retreats and other educational initiatives. Information is also shared through College communications including newsletters and the College intranet.</p> <p>Marian College is committed to ensuring that procedures for raising safety concerns are clear, accessible and age-appropriate for all students, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, students from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, students with disability, LGBTIQ+ students and other students who may experience vulnerability.</p> <p>The College also ensures that information about independent child advocacy and child helpline services is visible and accessible to students.</p>
<p>Procedures</p>	<p>To support the wellbeing and safety of students, Marian College implements a range of programs, structures and supports designed to promote connection, engagement and learning. These include:</p> <p>Academic and Learning Supports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Specialist literacy and numeracy support programs ● Targeted literacy intervention programs including MacqLit ● Individual Learning Plans ● 1:1 support through Learning Support Officers (LSOs) ● Social Skills: Skillstreaming for Adolescents <p>Wellbeing and Pastoral Care Supports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● OAK Wellbeing Program across all year levels ● Wellio wellbeing curriculum and Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships ● Teacher Advisor mentoring program and student conferences ● Individual counselling and wellbeing support ● Behaviour support planning where required ● Restorative conversations and reflection processes ● Year level assemblies and wellbeing initiatives. ● One Red Tree Psychologist Program <p>Engagement and Pathways Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social Innovators Leadership Program (8-9) ● Ready For Work (Year 10) ● Work Experience opportunities ● VCE VM and VET pathway programs ● Applied learning programs including the Welding Program

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Second Stones Program. Community, Faith and Identity Formation ● Retreats and camps ● Living Justice curriculum ● Opportunities for service, faith formation and community engagement. <p>Transition and Belonging Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Positive Start transition program (Years 7–9) ● Teacher Advisor program supporting student connection, reflection and goal-setting ● Wellbeing extends to all in the Marian College community which comprises students, families and staff. ● Marian College commits itself to enhancing positive and successful learning experiences for all students. ● Marian College has a responsibility to foster behaviours and a climate that will enable optimal learning and personal growth for each person. ● Each student is unique and should be treated accordingly. ● Wellbeing is based in restorative practices which are conducted in a timely manner. ● Marian College is committed to the promotion of wellbeing through building resilience and respectful relationships in a safe and inclusive learning community.
<p>Related Policies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● College Philosophy Compliance Statement ● Disability Discrimination Policy and Procedures ● Child Safeguarding Policy ● KEM Promotion of Student Wellbeing ● KEM Promotion of Staff Wellbeing

Date Ratified: September, 2021

Date Reviewed: March, 2026

Date of next review: March, 2029

Reviewed by: Leadership Team

Endorsed by: Principal