

BOYS IN SCHOOLS

POLICY

Rationale:

- Evidence indicates that certain groups of boys in school are more likely than girls to perform below their potential, are more likely to suffer feelings of alienation and disengagement, are much more likely to leave school prematurely, and are far more likely to involve themselves in high risk activities such as substance abuse.

Aims:

- To provide a school environment that recognises and acknowledges the needs of boys, and addresses them positively.

Implementation:

- Boys are different to girls.
- Boys generally have a bias toward activity and 'hands on' learning. Predominantly language based learning activities, which are typical of many classrooms, disadvantage boys. All students at our school will be provided with a variety of learning styles, and will be provided with choices as to the presentation of their work, as well as negotiated individual learning plans that prescribe the direction that their work takes.
- Parents and family have a strong influence on a boy's behaviour. Parents will be encouraged and supported so as to be active participants in their son's education
- Boys are more likely than girls to be involved in dangerous behaviour, drug abuse or suicide. Our school will provide programs that respond to healthy choices, peer pressure, self-esteem, and resilience for all students. Our school values will be strongly reinforced.
- Boys often over-estimate their ability, and are overly critical of their achievements. Our school will help students plan work requirements and to set realistic goals through the development of individual learning plans. We will also acknowledge the achievements of all students.

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council on....

June 2014