

CULTURAL CELEBRATIONS

POLICY

Rationale:

- The secular nature of the Government school system virtually ensures that a wide variety of religious and political viewpoints exist within each school community. Whilst this diversity should be recognised and celebrated, mainstream cultural celebrations should not be ignored or abandoned.

Aims:

- To ensure that students in our school are able to celebrate mainstream cultural celebrations that are commonplace in our society, whilst at the same time recognising and celebrating the cultural diversity and broad range of viewpoints that exist within our community.

Implementation:

- Our school is a multicultural community with a broad range of political, cultural and religious beliefs and viewpoints.
- At the same time, our school is Australian and we live in a predominantly Christian society with predominantly Christian views.
- The school will therefore celebrate all of the typical special occasions including Christmas and Easter. Our end-of-year concert will have a Christmas theme and include Santa Claus and Christmas carols etc; but we will also ensure that the program invites other groups to participate and feature their own cultural celebrations at the same time.
- The school will also explore other cultural celebrations that occur within families across the school, and will provide opportunities for children and families to celebrate their special occasions throughout the school year.
- No child will have to partake in cultural celebrations that they or their parents do not approve of, and will instead be provided with alternative worthwhile activities.
- Multicultural events and occasions will be regular features of our schools calendar and our multiculturalism will be celebrated, but multiculturalism will not replace or cause our mainstream cultural celebrations to be abandoned.

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....

August 2014