

# TRANSIENT FAMILIES

## POLICY

### Rationale:

- Students from transient families are at a higher risk of educational dislocation than students who attend one school. Consequently, their needs must be recognised and met through proactive and supportive school practices and programs.

### Aims:

- To recognise the transient nature of some families and students, and to provide an environment that is supportive of their specific needs.

### Implementation:

- Transience may occur for many reasons. In our school it is often associated with students whose families are involved in seasonal industries such as fruit picking.
- Our school caters for a number of transient families each year, a large percentage of who return annually. They are very welcome at our school.
- Students of highly transient families can find that their education becomes disjointed, making it very difficult for them to perform at or near their potential.
- Students from historically transient families who enrol at our school will be brought to the attention of a designated staff member who will be responsible for communicating with, and managing all aspects of our transience program.
- The Principal will communicate with the previous schools.
- A member of School Council will contact transient families to welcome them to the school.
- The Principal will provide the parents with an information package including details of local facilities, health and support agencies, maps, networks and tourist information.
- Transient students will have their abilities assessed by classroom teachers soon after arrival, with programs speedily developed and tailored to meet their needs.
- Parents of transient students will be encouraged to be involved in their child's education.
- Support programs will be provided as required.
- Detailed records will be kept of the progress of transient students. These records will be copied and provided to their parents in anticipation that they will be utilised by their next school.
- Records will be kept of transient student friendship groups and teachers so that they may be dove-tailed together should the transient student return in the future.
- Transient students will be provided with a school contact card when exiting our school, so that their parents can contact our school prior to any future arrival.
- Upon exiting our school, the designated coordinator will make contact with each student's new school and provide information that may be used to ensure an educational continuum.

### Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed in consultation with students and parents of transient families as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

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

March 2015