GEMBROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Health Promoting Schools

Definition:
- A Health Promoting School (HPS) is a school community that takes action and places priority on creating an environment that will have the best possible impact on the health of students, staff and the wider school community. A HPS takes action to promote and protect the social, physical, intellectual, mental and emotional health of its members.

Rationale:
- Evidence indicates that school health programs, which are comprehensive and integrated, and include the curriculum, the environment and the community, are more likely to lead to advancements in the health of school children and adolescents.

Aims:
- To build a strong and healthy school community, knowledgeable of the choice services available and skilled in the making of decisions and choices.

Implementation:
- The HPS strategy will be based upon the following three recognised dimensions of the HPS framework and components:

A. Curriculum, Teaching and Learning:
Meaningful and individualised learning for all students, student centred teaching, a planned and sequention curriculum, high quality literacy and numeracy programs, extra-curricula opportunities, integrated health program, creative and physical activities, experiential teaching, life skills programs and high quality assessment & reporting.

B. School Organisation, Ethos and Environment:
Staff health & well-being programs, occupational health & safety program, development of teams and positive relationships, sunsmart policy, areas for physical activity, health promoting canteen, managing diversity practices, active Student Representative Council, passive recreation areas, pastoral care, and collaborative decision making processes.

C. Community Links and Partnerships:
Strong relationships with community health and support services, development and implementation of school health policies and programs, education programs for parents, and community use of school facilities.

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

This policy was last reviewed in 2006
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