



STUDENTS AT EDUCATIONAL RISK POLICY

2019 - 2023

RATIONALE

At Cranbourne East Secondary College, we recognise that there are students whose academic, social and/or emotional attributes are a barrier to engagement at school and are considered to be at educational risk. Cranbourne East Secondary College identifies, responds to and supports the diverse needs of all students, so they are able to engage with the content and curriculum standards defined in the **Australian Curriculum in Victoria (AusVELS)**.

Cranbourne East Secondary College staff support students at educational risk to develop the understanding, confidence and skills to achieve their individual potential, whether this be support or extension.

RISK FACTORS:

There are a range of factors that may contribute to a student's disengagement:

- Family and community factors such as poverty, parental unemployment and/or low educational attainment, homelessness, transience or living in out-of-home care, Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander status, refugee background, family breakdown/relationship issues and domestic violence
- Personal factors such as physical or mental health issues, disability, behavioural issues, offending behaviour and/or contact with police or justice system, substance misuse or dependency, pregnancy or parenting, caring responsibilities, and learning difficulties
- School-related factors such as negative relationships with teachers or peers.

INDICATORS

Indicators at the school level that a student may be at risk of disengaging include:

- Erratic or no attendance
- Low literacy or numeracy/poor attainment
- Lack of interest in school and/or stated intention to leave
- Negative interactions with peers
- Behavioural issues including aggression, violence, or social withdrawal
- Significant change in behaviour, attitude or performance.

GUIDELINES

The following guidelines apply in relation to students at educational risk at CESC:-

- Individual student strategies, including:
 - Transition support
 - Student Support Group meetings
 - Individual Education Plans
 - Behaviour Support Plan
 - Attendance Improvement Plan

- Re-engagement Programs
- Referral to Student Wellbeing
- Referral to external agencies.

The major components are: identification, provision, monitoring and reporting.

Identification:

Cranbourne East Secondary College has plans and processes in place that enable early identification of students who may be at educational risk.

Provision:

Cranbourne East Secondary College staff will:-

- Develop and implement plans, processes and strategies that enable the delivery of a curriculum that maximises opportunities for all students at educational risk
- Employ a combination of promotion and prevention approaches to increase protective factors and reduce risk factors influencing the educational, social and/or emotional developments of students at risk
- Allocate available resources and engage appropriate agencies to support individuals and groups of students at risk
- Confirm that teaching and relevant support staff engage in professional learning so that they are able to identify and address the specific needs of students
- Encourage teachers to consult with relevant school-based and external stakeholders when planning for students at risk.

Monitoring and Reporting:

Cranbourne East Secondary College staff will:-

- Use a comprehensive range of assessment methods to collect quality data and information that can be used to inform the progress of students at risk
- Provide parents/carers with ongoing, accurate and relevant information about their child's progress.

Relevant data may include:

- Attendance and behaviour data
- Anecdotal data from families
- Reports and records from classroom teachers
- Educational, health or wellbeing assessments completed by in-school or Department support services, psychology service reports
- Academic achievement data, such as Naplan.

Links:

DET: Identify students at risk of disengaging

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/behaviour/engagement/Pages/identify-students.aspx>

Strategies to improve student engagement

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/behaviour/engagement/Pages/strategies-improve-engagement.aspx>