

ESSEX HEIGHTS PRIMARY SCHOOL **SEXUALITY EDUCATION POLICY**

1. PHILOSOPHICAL BASIS

We at Essex Heights Primary School believe that Sexuality Education is important to promote health and respectful relationships, and to assist students to make responsible and safe decisions. Sexuality Education promotes students' social skills, health and well being and encompasses the biological, social and emotional aspects of sexuality.

We aim to provide age appropriate guidance and support to the children of Essex Heights Primary School while recognising that Sexuality Education is a responsibility shared between the school, parents and health professionals.

Comprehensive Sexuality Education is a compulsory part of the school's health education curriculum laying a foundation to be built upon in Secondary School.

2. GUIDELINES

- 2.1 The school's Sexuality Education Program will be based on the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) resource "Catching on Early" which is a developmental program based on the Victorian Early Learning Standards (VELS) Levels 1-4.
- 2.2 Parents will be informed, each year, about the content of the program for their child's level through newsletters and information evenings.
- 2.3 External Health Professionals may be used from time to time to support the planning and delivery of the program.
- 2.4 Consistent with DEECD Policy, a parent or caregiver may decide not to allow their child to participate in the Sexuality Education Program.
- 2.5 The diversity of all students, family values and beliefs will be respected.
- 2.6 The school will direct families who opt out, to appropriate resources.
- 2.7 School staff who have a central role in planning and delivering this program will be provided with training and leadership support.

Andrew Crossett

James Fitzpatrick

Principal

School Council President

School Council-August 2011