



FAIRFIELD INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

INTERNATIONALISATION POLICY

MOE MIGRANT REFUGEE and INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS - 2023

Mission Statement.

Fairfield Intermediate is committed to ensuring that International Students who choose to study with us are looked after and cared for as if they were one of our own. We look to promote a healthy and happy environment for students to learn in and we are dedicated to making sure that their physical and emotional wellbeing is maintained throughout their time here in New Zealand.

Fairfield Intermediate appreciates the difficulty for children in making the transition from a foreign country into a new culture and school. We aim to make this experience as comfortable and easy for International Students as possible and we have a number of strategies and systems in place that aim to make this an enjoyable, positive experience.

Fairfield Intermediate believes that International Students should be incorporated into their school life as soon as possible. They are encouraged to take part in all the sporting, academic and cultural activities available to them and are buddied up with classroom friends and mentors from the first moment they arrive at school.

Fairfield Intermediate School staff and students are expected to commit to maintaining the wellbeing of all International children at the school. They are expected to show a high level of tolerance and understanding towards those individuals from a different culture and are guided by the International Department as to the best and most appropriate approaches to take on how to take care of them.

Fairfield Intermediate School Internationalisation Expectations.:

- Students made to feel welcome
- Students made to feel included
- Students have friends and an active social life at the school both with their NZ friends and students from their own culture
- Students made to feel valued and important to the school
- Students made to feel that their culture and language is valued
- Students made to feel part of the school
- Students feel they are not isolated in the school
- Students feel looked after and nurtured
- Students feel they have teachers that they trust
- Students feel that they will be listened to
- Students feel they have an adult from their own culture that they can talk to
- Students are made to feel they have constant support with their classroom learning and language acquisition. Students made to feel that they are achieving in the NZ curriculum.
- Students welfare, emotional and physical wellbeing is well monitored and followed closely by the Director of International Students.

Why Fairfield Intermediate accepts International Students:

- To expose FFI staff and students to a diverse range and variety of cultures and language.
- To promote tolerance and respect within the school to foreign language learners.
- To develop FFI staff and students to see things from a different point of view and learn respect and acceptance of individuals from another country.
- To encourage lifelong friendships between children from other cultures.
- To upskill and develop FFI school staff in the teaching skills and techniques required for teaching English as a foreign language to International Students.
- To develop FFI staff awareness of the special physical, emotional and linguistic needs required by children from another culture.

INTERNATIONALISATION PROCESSES.

1 .School Orientation Processes:

- Students met at the front office with parents and/or caregivers
- Students taken to the International Department and introduced to the staff in this team. They are also introduced to the school support person responsible for their culture and language.
- Students introduced to their New Zealand classroom buddy and a senior student from their culture in the school. They are then given a tour of the school by these children which includes meeting all Senior Management staff and becoming aware of all facilities available at the school.
- Students are given all the documentation related to the school rules and school code of conduct. Translators are available if necessary to ensure that the student understands all the processes and regulations that they are required to have knowledge of before they start at the school.
- Students are given uniform lists and stationery and their classroom buddy takes them to their classroom where they are introduced to their classroom teacher and their classmates.
- Students then return to the International Department and are introduced to all the other International Students at the school. A shared lunch is then had in the International Department with all staff who will be in main contact with the student, the classroom buddy and all other International Students attending the school.

2. Classroom Orientation Processes:

- Students are assessed on their level of English in the International Department through a variety of speaking, listening reading and writing tests.
- Students are placed into a classroom where they have their New Zealand Buddy for support. They are put into classroom reading and writing literacy groups based on the results of their placement assessments.
- Students are given outlines of their term planner and classroom programmes.
- Students are given their ESOL timetables as this is a withdrawal English Language support programme that runs separately from their classroom programme.
- Students' academic and pastoral care wellbeing is monitored through meetings with the classroom teacher, the Dean of International Students and homestay parents/caregivers.

3. School Pastoral Care Processes:

- All International Students meet weekly with the Dean of International Students to ensure that their emotional well-being is being consistently monitored.
- All International Students meet monthly with a first language support person in the school to conduct the required Code of Conduct Pastoral Care interviews for International Students under 14 years.
- All classroom teachers associated with an International Student have access to reports and profiles relating to their student. Regular meetings are scheduled with the Dean of International Students to discuss the academic and social progress and integration into the school.
- All International Students are expected to email home weekly to their parents and they have a student diary in which they write every day. These are both used as communication vehicles for the Dean of International Students to monitor the emotional state of the student.
- In the event of an issue arising with an International Student the concern is first dealt with by the Dean of International Students. If necessary, the classroom teacher is informed. If the problem persists or becomes more urgent the Deputy Principal overseeing the International Student programme is informed and will act accordingly. All grievances are communicated to the school Principal.

4. ESOL language Programmes:

- International Students are withdrawn from classrooms to have small group ESOL tuition with specialist teachers.
- These classes have students from a variety of different countries so that International Students are not made to feel singled out or different because of their English Language abilities.
- The ESOL programmes combine in- class tuition with a number of outdoor education experiences. These involve camps and trips around New Zealand and include all students from the school who take part in the ESOL programmes. As well as our International Students this also includes New Zealand refugee or migrant children, and FIS believes this is an important part in creating cross – cultural tolerance and respect within the foreign school community.

5. Sporting/cultural activities involvement:

- FIS believes that continued sporting and cultural involvement in the school is vital for the physical and emotional wellbeing of our International Students. Traditionally, these are areas where language is not as big a barrier to the students and it is where FIS believes an important part of social learning and education takes place.
 - FIS has as part of their ESOL programme and ESOL sports afternoon for all International and Migrant/Refugee children. This is an opportunity for students in a New Zealand classroom to take an afternoon of sports with all our foreign students and creates an ideal opportunity for children of all races and ethnicities to come together in play.
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All International Students are expected to play a winter sport for the school. This is to encourage interaction within their team and with their coaches and gives them an opportunity to participate in the wider local community. • All International Students take part in a school singing programme within their classroom's team syndicates. This allows students to interact with a wider range of FFI students and not just those in their own individual classroom. • All International Students are encouraged to take part in the school wide Performing Arts experiences. They are also exposed to a wide variety of music and singing opportunities with a range of musical instruments available for private lessons. |
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REVIEW:

This accommodation policy will be reviewed **annually**.

Approved Date: May 2023

Review Date: June 2024

Signature: (Director of International Students).....

Signature (Principal).....

Signature (Board of Trustees Chairperson)