



FLAGS

POLICY



Rationale:

- The Australian flag is an important element of our national pride and identity. As such, it is proper that it be flown at all appropriate times, and with the distinction that it deserves.

Aims:

- To ensure that the Australian, Aboriginal, Torres Strait and Winters Flat flags are flown at all proper times, in accordance with proper protocol, and in a manner befitting of a national emblem.
- To ensure that all students are aware of the Australian, Aboriginal flag and Torres Strait flags, their designs, origins, history and importance.

Implementation:

- The flags will be flown on our flag poles at all times that the school is open and operational. The Australian flag will be flown on the centre flag pole, with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait flags on each side. The Winters Flat flag will be flown on the single flagpole at the front gate.
- The flags will be maintained in an excellent condition and not be allowed to fall into disrepair.
- The Australian, Aboriginal and Torres Strait flags, their design, origins, history and importance will form part of the school's curriculum for every student.
- The Australian national anthem will be sung, and the Australian, Aboriginal and Torres Strait flags will be displayed at whole school assemblies each Monday morning.
- As it is disrespectful to fly the Australian flag at night (unless appropriately illuminated), the flag will be taken down each day and hoisted each morning by the flag monitors.
- Flag flying protocol can be complex but it is generally understood that the Australian national flag should always be flown in the most pre-eminent position in comparison to other flags, the flag should not be flown upside down, the flag should fly freely and without tangles, it should not be flown in the dark unless lit by a light and it must not be allowed to drag or fall on the ground. The Australian flag must not be below any other flags being flown on adjacent flag poles at the same time, and it should be treated with respect at all times.
- The Australian flag will be flown at half mast whenever requested to do so by the state or federal government, and at times during appropriate ceremonies such as Remembrance Day.

Evaluation:

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

This policy was last ratified by School Council

Oct 2014