Emerald Secondary College is a caring community and we understand that the integral part that our school has in educating our young people to develop the skills and abilities that they need to succeed not only at school but also in work and in life generally. We also recognise that we have a role to play in leading the education, support and improvement to our student’s Health and Wellbeing.

Emerald Secondary College embraces this role and sees a direct correlation between this and happy and safe community members. At Emerald Secondary College Health and Wellbeing support and education is undertaken in a number of various ways:

**Home group Teacher Role** – A student will have one main Home group Teacher who continues as their home group teacher throughout their six years of schooling. This unique aspect of ESC ensures that there is one teacher who gets to know your child well who can liaise with parents should the necessity arise, with any concerns that they may perceive.

**Personal and Social Education Program (PASE)** – this program is delivered through our Home group Teacher and each week students in their Home group work through programs designed to address critical aspects of social and personal development. This framework allows the College to provide key aspects that promote engagement and academic achievement as well as social and emotional support.

Examples of such programs/topics delivered through PASE are:
- Driver Education/Road Safety Focus (Senior Year Levels),
- Relationships and Teamwork,
- Cybersafety – Staying Safe Online,
- Drug education,
- Mental Illness,
- Embedding Resilience and Mindfulness etc.

**Restorative Practices** – In line with College Policies which promote a safe and inclusive environment, the College also uses the ‘restorative’ approach to support students. Restorative Practice is a strategy that seeks to repair relationships that have been damaged, including those damaged through bullying. It does this by bringing about a sense of remorse and restorative action on the part of the offender and forgiveness by the victim. This approach is effective in building better student community understanding.

**Further Supports** – The College uses the collection and analysis of data to look at aspects of support which may be needed for students and for the College community to keep abreast with trends. The College has a full time Wellbeing Leader who is supported by a College Chaplain, Department Social Workers, Assessment Specialists plus also has strong links with support agencies in the community e.g. ECHO, Cardinia Shire Youth Team etc. From mid-2017 we will have a new Inclusion Centre, where we will also have a doctor in residence, other visiting support specialists as well as our Wellbeing leader and support staff.