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COMMUNICATION WITH SCHOOL

STAFF POLICY

**Help for non-English speakers**

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Emerald Secondary College on (03) 5968 5388 or email [emerald.sc@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:emerald.sc@education.vic.gov.au)

**Purpose**

This policy explains how Emerald Secondary College proposes to manage common enquiries from parents and carers.

## **Scope**

This policy applies to school staff, and all parents and carers in our community.

## **Policy**

Emerald Secondary College understands the importance of providing helpful and timely responses to common enquiries from parents and carers. To ensure that members of our school community are directed to the most appropriate person to assist them, the information below outlines key contacts for common queries:

* to report a student absence, please contact the Attendance Officer on 5968 5388 – Press 1 for the Senior School, Press 2 for the Junior School
* to report any urgent issues relating to a student on a particular day, please contact the Administration Office on 5968 5388 and your issue will be forwarded onto the relevant person
* to discuss a student’s academic progress, health or wellbeing, please contact your Learning Engagement Leader.
* for enquiries regarding camps and excursions, please contact the finance office on 5968 5388 – Press 3
* to make a complaint, please contact the Principal/Assistant Principal on 5968 5388 or school email [emerald.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:emerald.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au). Please also refer to our Complaints policy, available: [www.emeraldsc.vic.edu.au](http://www.emeraldsc.vic.edu.au).
* to report a potential hazard or incident on the school site, please contact the Principal/Assistant Principal on 5968 5388
* for parent payments, please contact the finance office on 5968 5388 – Press 3
* for all other enquiries, please contact our Office on 5968 5388

School staff will do our best to respond to general queries as soon as possible and ask that you allow us 2 – 3 working days to provide you with a detailed response. We will endeavour to respond to urgent matters within 24 hours where possible.

### Interpreting Services

### We can arrange for interpreting support if you are from a language background other than English and need help with understanding important educational information about your child. Contact 5968 5388 for more information.

### Requests for information

Parents and carers are generally entitled to information ordinarily provided to parents, including school reports and newsletters.

Parents and carers seeking information that is not ordinarily provided to parents are encouraged to apply for access through the Freedom of Information process, or, if the information is sought for use in court proceedings, by issuing a subpoena.

Freedom of Information requests should be directed to:

Manager – Freedom of Information Unit

Department of Education and Training

2 Treasury Place

EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002

03 9637 3134

[foi@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:foi@education.vic.gov.au)

**COMMUNICATION**

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways

* Included in staff induction processes
* Available publicly on our school’s website
* Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
* Discussed at parent meetings as required
* Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

**POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

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| --- | --- |
| Policy last reviewed | 10/07/2023 |
| Approved by | School Council |
| Next scheduled review date | August 2025 |