Doncaster Gardens Primary School
International Students Policy

Philosophical Basis:
International education furthers our engagement with the world socially, culturally and intellectually. Overseas students contribute to the internationalising of education by providing opportunities for exchanging ideas and knowledge, and building understanding of other cultures, languages and societies. They provide an opportunity to extend friendships and broaden our networks. Doncaster Gardens Primary School is an accredited provider of education to international students in accordance with the Victorian Government Schools International Student Program.

Guidelines:
Doncaster Gardens Primary School will:
• accept a maximum of 14 international fee paying students each year, if enrolment is sought from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, International Student Unit.
• generally limit the number of international students to 2 at each year level, dependent on whether there are vacancies available.
• endeavour to ensure that the students, parents and staff find this to be a rewarding experience.
• provide all international students with the best possible learning opportunities whilst attending the school.
• ensure that all barriers to learning specific to these students are identified and addressed.
• forward all correspondence from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, International Student Unit to the families, including overdue accounts.
• forward all correspondence from nominated private health funds to the families.
• provide non English speaking students support and additional assistance through the English as an Additional Language (EAL) program.

Implementation:
• This policy operates in conjunction with the Enrolment Policy.
• The Principal will have responsibility for matters relating to international students.
• All international students must hold a current visa which permits them to study in Australia.
• International students will be assessed in the same manner as all students at Doncaster Gardens Primary School.
• Fees paid to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) will cover all standard educational expenses, including parent contributions and term planners, but will not cover elected expenses such as swimming, camps and Chess.
• A buddy will be assigned to assist each international student to assimilate into the school community.
• Opportunities will be provided for international students to share their culture and language with other members of the school community.

Evaluation:
• Feedback from international students and their families on the quality of their educational experience will be regularly sought.
• This policy will be reviewed every three years as part of the policy review cycle.