



# EMERALD SECONDARY COLLEGE

## TATTOO POLICY

### PURPOSE

To explain to Emerald Secondary College parents, carers, staff and students the processes and procedures in place to support students and parents/carers so that they become more informed about visible tattoo.

### SCOPE

This policy applies to:

- all staff, including casual relief staff and volunteers
- all students

### POLICY

#### School Statement

Emerald Secondary College will fully comply with Ministerial Order 706 and the associated guidelines published by the Department of Education and Training.

Visible body tattoos must either be covered with acceptable College uniform items or a skin coloured bandage. As it is illegal for a person to tattoo any person under the age of 18 years in Victoria, this policy will impact on only a few students at the College.

The College expects all students that have tattoos or other visible body markings such as scarification to cover these when at school at all times including any outside school sanctioned event/activity.

The College policy on tattoo has been devised in consultation with parents, teachers and students and is overseen by the College School Council.

It should be noted that this policy is in line with the College's Facial Piercing Policy in that it aims to represent all students who attend the school in a consistent nature.

The policy also aims to support parents in aiming perhaps to encourage their son/daughter to delay such permanent decisions until they have completed their Secondary Education.

All students are expected to comply with this aspect of the school policy and avoid unnecessary consequences.

If an uncovered tattoo is seen on a student during the day they will be sent up to a member of the Principal Team at the front office.

The following procedures will be followed:

- First Offence – A general warning is given to the student and an Amber Post recorded on Compass and a copy of tattoo policy is made available to the student. This letter is also mailed to parent/guardian.
- Second Offence –The student will be issued with an Afterschool Detention.
- Third and Subsequent Offences – The student will be will be removed from class for the remainder of that day. Students will not be able to return to class until they comply with the policy. A formal suspension process may begin to take place during this time especially if it is an ongoing issues where the student is deliberately not adhering to the warnings/policy.

## **REVIEW CYCLE**

This policy was last updated 19<sup>th</sup> August 2020 and is scheduled for review in August 2023.