

Centralian Senior College: Partnerships involving external organisations

November 2013

Purpose of Policy:

To ensure Centralian Senior College maximises education partnership opportunities with organisations in a way that is inclusive of the school community and consistent with the core values of the school; and to ensure school community is aware of school partnerships with external organisations.

Definition: Partnerships

A partnership is a relationship between a school and an organisation where all partners engage in the relationship to seek a common outcome of maximising learning and development outcomes for students. It is not:

- A contract arrangement to purchase services or activities;
- Sponsorship, or
- The hiring of school space for the exclusive benefit of an external organisation.

Effective education partnerships are mutually beneficial relationships that extend beyond what schools and organisations can accomplish in isolation and provide opportunities to:

- Contribute to achievement of improved learning development and wellbeing outcomes of students
- Enhance engagement, wellbeing and development of students
- Contribute to successful transitions of students into further education, training and/or employment.

Process for Centralian Senior College to establish and monitor partnerships in the community

1. Involvement of School leadership (Senior teachers; School Council; Student Representative Council) in initial stages in any planning or decision making about entering a partnership with an outside entity

a. School leadership to consider the following criteria - before proceeding - to ensure all partnerships:

- Align with the values of the school community
- Comply with school and Department policies
- Have goals that align with the school's strategic and annual implementation plan
- Are not seeking to make direct profit from the partnership; and
- Will not make the school a place for marketing or endorsing products and/or services
- Do not associate with political parties, companies involved in the sale of alcohol or tobacco, gaming companies; the horse racing industry; companies involved in the sale/promotion of firearms; and organisations involved in the publishing of offensive or inappropriate activity (such as adult only material)
- Do not allow pop ups or links to external websites that have inappropriate content when using information and communication technology
- Apply the information privacy principles of the Northern Territory Information Act¹

b. Whole school community to be informed of any new partnership

Centralian Senior College to engage and seek support from the school community, to help determine the suitability of the partnership arrangement, through provision of written documentation of above process to teachers; students and parent body – prior to school leadership approving the establishment of a partnership.

c. Process for planning and formalising partnerships;

Centralian Senior College will:

- Document the relationship and the agreed partnership goals
- Identify, allocate and document resources to maintain and sustain the partnership

¹ Centralian Senior College will not disclose to an external organisation any school records containing private information about staff, parents and students, including names or addresses, without the explicit consent of those individuals

- Document agreed roles of all partners
- Establish a governance structure and work plan to guide and manage the partnership.
- School Principal (or delegate) can authorize the partnership to proceed, once the school leadership has determined that a partnership meets the criteria for entering a partnership, the
- Maintain partnership details in a Centralian Senior College Partnership Register

2. Provision of information about the nature of the partnership to students and families

Centralian Senior College to provide information about any new partnerships in School Newsletter. Specific information about the nature of the partnership to be provided and the partner organisation(s), to families where students are to be directly affected by/actively engaged in the partnership.

3. Centralian Senior College to document partnerships in School Strategic Plan

Centralian Senior College to include partnerships as part of the school strategic and annual implementation plan; including reporting back on outcomes from partnership(s).

4. Evaluation of all partnerships

Centralian Senior College to evaluate the partnership throughout the life of the partnership not just at its conclusion (*including existing ones developed prior to this policy*). This could occur as part of a review of the school strategic and annual implementation plan. Evaluation findings will be used to develop further partnership planning. All partnerships will have a sunset clause.

5. Maintenance of partnership registry

Centralian Senior College to maintain a register of partnerships being undertaken with the school

Other Considerations/Requirements:

Philanthropic partnerships

The motivation and potential of philanthropic sectors to partner with government schools is increasing. Factors contributing to this include the enhancement and expansion of philanthropic and corporate responsibility and the increasing recognition of the importance of education in meeting social and economic goals. Schools interested in establishing a partnership with philanthropic organisations will need to become a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) see: Tax Compliance Policy.

Co-location and shared use of facilities

Formal written agreements, authorised by the school council, are required for shared facility agreements between schools and the community. See: Community Use of School Facilities Policy

Related Department of Education Policies –for reference purposes as relevant²

- Dept of Education Code of Conduct for School Policy (and Guidelines)
- Dept of Education Community Use of School Facilities Agreement
- Dept of Education Release of Student Information Policy
- Dept of Education Working with Children Clearance Notices Policy
- NTG Information and Communications Technology
- NTG Political Activities and Promotion of Materials Policy

Related legislation

- Information Act NT³

Review Date of Policy: November 2014

Appendix: Centralian Senior College List of partnerships and collaborations

Cent SC acknowledges the valuable input gained from the School Councils Victorian Department of Education Partnership Policy in developing this policy

² <http://www.education.nt.gov.au/about-us/policies>

³ http://dcm.nt.gov.au/strong_service_delivery/supporting_government/current_northern_territory_legislation_database

CDU - Joint site agreement

CDU - HEPPP "into UNI" project

CDU – VETiS program

ACIKE - HEPPP "into UNI" project also PTS courses

Biite – HEPPP "into UNI" project

Biite – VETiS program

CAT – VETiS program

Dept of Corrections - shared facility at Owen Springs

Clontarf – Male football engagement academy

Centralian Girls Academy – Female engagement academy

GTNT - school based apprenticeships and training

STEPS - DEEWR funded for students at risk

Headspace – social and emotional health support

ASYSSAS – Youth refuge

Nossal Institute for Global Health

Newmont mining – VET support through DoE RTO

ABC media support in Gateways

Advocate and Alice Springs news do good news stories for us

Conversations but no agreements or engagement at this time

Raytheon – training program for our students

SBS – Insight and other programs