

**DRAFT**  
**WILLIAMSTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL MULTICULTURAL POLICY**

**1. Scope**

This policy is an overarching policy that applies to members of school staff and the School Council at Williamstown Primary School. It is expected that this policy inform other relevant documents such as the Strategic Plan (Charter), Curriculum and other relevant staff endeavours.

**2. Authorisation**

The policy was adopted at Williamstown Primary School Council meeting on 18 October 2005.

**3. Review date**

This policy shall be reviewed in September 2007 or updated before, if required.

**4. Background/Rationale**

The Victorian Government and the Department of Education are committed to the ideal of cultural inclusiveness and the notions of equity, choice and access as these are indicators of a truly multicultural society.

The Multicultural Act 2005 come into operation in 2005 and has specific implications and responsibilities for schools including school council.

Information regarding the Multicultural Policy for Victorian Schools (1997) and various guidelines and resources can be found on [www.sofweb.vic.edu.au](http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au).

**5. Definitions /Aims**

The concept of multiculturalism values cultural and linguistic diversity within a context of unity.

The range of multicultural education policy and programs throughout the education system has resulted in an overall aim to ensure that multicultural awareness and skills become natural outcomes of schooling.

The aim of this policy is to ensure that Williamstown Primary School Council support multiculturalism and foster a common understanding of the importance of cultural diversity throughout the school within its role.

**6. Policy context /Implementation**

**School council will aim to:**

Ensure key policy and planning documents reflect the principle of multiculturalism:

- All members of the school community are entitled to mutual respect and understanding regardless of their cultural, religious ,racial and linguistic backgrounds
- Promote and preserve diversity and cultural heritage among members of the school community.

Encourage and facilitate participation by parents/carers in the school community activities and decision making, taking into account principles of multiculturalism

**2.1** Ensuring that all of the schools current and future polices are consistent with the principles of multi-culturalism.

**7 Evaluation strategies [if required]**