Rationale
- The Victorian Government’s vision is for all Victorian learning and development settings to equip children and young people with the knowledge and skills to participate in and contribute to our diverse society as active and informed citizens - locally, nationally and internationally.
- Citizenship and informed civic participation are the cornerstones of our successful, cohesive and prosperous multicultural, secular and multi-faith society. Civic, citizenship and multicultural education support children and young people to understand their roles, rights and responsibilities as citizens, and to know how to contribute actively to civic life and to interact harmoniously with the diverse cultures and faiths in their local, state, national and global communities.

Purpose
- To ensure Point Cook Senior Secondary College is aware of Unity through Diversity, the Victorian Government’s vision for civics, citizenship and multicultural education.
- To ensure the school complies with DET policy and guidelines and the legislative requirements including the Multicultural Victoria Act 2011.
- To ensure the safety of children through the creation and maintenance of a child safe environment.
- To ensure the school complies with Child Safe Standard 5.
- To develop a child safe school that fosters and develops a culture in which everyone – staff, volunteers, parents/carers and children – feels confident, enabled and supported to safely disclose child safety concerns.
- To develop a school ethos that reflects, responds to and values multiculturalism.

Definitions
Multicultural education is not a discrete learning area, or simply the provision of Languages and English as an Additional Language (EAL). Multicultural education makes sure that all students have access to inclusive teaching and learning experiences. These experiences allow students to successfully take part in a rapidly changing world where cross-cultural understanding and intercultural communication skills are essential.

Implementation
- The safety of every child at the school is our highest priority.
- The school has a zero tolerance of child abuse.
- The principles of multiculturalism will underpin all aspects of school life, the policies, the curriculum and programs.
- We will promote diversity by ensuring that learning experiences recognise, value and build on students’ backgrounds and experiences.
- Our school Student Engagement Policy, Dress Code, and Strategic Plan will all acknowledge and cater for our cultural diversity and the principles of multiculturalism.
- All staff will model culturally inclusive behaviour, and report to the Principal any behaviour that appears racist, discriminatory, prejudiced or culturally biased.
- We will promote the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds.
- Essential notices, newsletters, student reports, permission forms etc. will be provided in languages consistent with the needs of community members. Interpreters will be arranged where required.
- The school will provide languages education. Please refer also to the school’s Curriculum Policy.
Please refer also to the school’s Duty of Care Policy, the Information Privacy Policy and the Child Safe Standards.

**Evaluation**

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s three-year review cycle or if guidelines change (latest DET update mid-January 2016).

This policy was ratified by School Council on .........................

References: