



POLYFEST COMPETITION POLICY

RATIONALE:

Cultural participation and celebration by students is important in helping them to discover and maintain their cultural identity. It is also an opportunity to enhance all other aspects of school life.

PURPOSES:

That involvement in the Polyfest Competition is seen by students, whanau and the school community as a privilege supported by whanau.

To encourage students to aspire to excellence in cultural competition.

GUIDELINES:

1. Academic achievement is the first pre-requisite for being accepted into a Cultural Group for all students, either through passing NCEA the previous year or reaching the required Curriculum levels.
2. Cultural Group membership will be dependant upon student attendance and behaviour over a sustained period.
3. At least one staff member must be present at every Group practice.
4. Practice times are agreed on and kept to for the entire lead in to Polyfest. Practice **MUST NOT** exceed more than two hours on school days. Weekend and other practice sessions must be approved by and will be at the sole discretion of the Principal.
5. Hostel prep time will not be used except Monday, Wednesday, Friday two (2) weeks out from the event. (The event date is measured from the Saturday of Polyfest). Groups that go over the set times risk being withdrawn from Polyfest.
6. Practices are not to interfere with other after school activities except the week (1) leading into the event. (The event date is measured from the Saturday of Polyfest).
7. Any form of bullying, especially at cultural practices, will not be accepted and may result in the withdrawal of an individual student or the entire cultural group from participating in Polyfest.
8. It is agreed **NO** sleepovers for Polyfest will be undertaken.
9. For entry into the Competition, a Cultural Group must have a suitable tutor and clear support from parents. **NO** tutor should be enlisted unless they can meet school expectations, set practice times and comply with Polyfest guidelines.
10. Each entry is to be considered on a case by case basis each year, with no automatic entry.
11. Where possible the competition is to be used to gain NCEA credits.
12. Parents of students who are not present at school on the days leading into Polyfest must be informed that students are jeopardising their chance to perform by teachers in charge.
13. Each Cultural Group must stay within set budgets.
14. All fundraising activities associated with any Polyfest cultural group must be approved by the Principal.
15. Participation is at the sole discretion of the Principal.

The Wesley College School Board approved this policy at the April meeting 2024.
This policy will be reviewed on / before the April meeting 2027.

PRESIDING MEMBER

4 April 2024
DATE