



Mature Minor Policy

Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to explain to members of our College community the circumstances in which Whittlesea Secondary College may decide to treat a student as a **mature minor** to enable them to independently make decisions about their education, health and welfare.

Scope:

This policy may be applied to some or all decisions involving a student's education, health and welfare.

Policy:

Whittlesea Secondary College will ordinarily engage with a student's parents/carers about a student's education and welfare unless the Principal (or their nominee) decides it is not in the best interests of the student to do so.

The Principal (or their nominee) is responsible for determining whether a student is a **mature minor** for the purpose of making a particular decision about their education or welfare. A student may be treated as a **mature minor** for some decisions and not for others. The Principal (or their nominee) will decide whether a student should be treated as a **mature minor** on a case-by-case basis and may consult with College staff including the Whittlesea Secondary College Leadership team, Heads of Houses, Wellbeing staff and Student Support Services where appropriate.

When assessing whether a student should be treated as a **mature minor** for the purposes of a particular decision, the Principal (or their nominee) will consider:

- The best interests of the student.
- The student's age, maturity level, understanding of the issues and consequences associated with the decision.
- Their living arrangements (independence).
- The student's academic results, attendance and engagement at the College.

The Principal must be satisfied that the student has sufficient maturity, understanding and intelligence to comprehend the nature and effect of the decision.

Students who would like more information about the Department's *Mature Minors* policy, and how it might apply to them should contact Whittlesea Secondary College Wellbeing Team.



Communication:

This policy will be communicated to our College community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our College website
- Included in staff induction processes
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Hard copy available from College administration upon request.

Further Information and Resources:

The Department's Policy and Advisory Library:

- [Mature Minors and Decision Making](#)

Policy last reviewed	September 2025
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	September 2028