



## PURPOSE

To explain to members of our school community the circumstances in which Lyndhurst 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

Lyndhurst Secondary College will ordinarily engage with a student's parents/carers about a student's education and welfare unless the principal decides it is not in the best interests of the student to do so.

The principal 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 will decide whether a student should be treated as a mature minor on a case by case basis and may consult with school staff including the wellbeing team, Student Support Services and subschool leaders where appropriate. The principal may also consult with DET legal for advice as appropriate.

When assessing whether a student should be treated as a mature minor for the purposes of a particular decision, the principal 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 and independence
- the student's academic results, attendance and engagement at school.

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

Students and families who would like more information about the Lyndhurst Secondary College Mature Minors policy, and how it might apply to them should contact the LSC principal or a member of the wellbeing team.

## FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- School Policy and Advisory Guide: Mature Minors  
<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/safety/Pages/matureminor.aspx>

## REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last reviewed December 2018 and is scheduled for review December 2021.