

# SACRED HEART PARISH SCHOOL DISCIPLINE POLICY

## **Rationale:**

Sacred Heart Parish School's Discipline Policy, seeks to promote a respectful, secure and healthy environment, in which all students can prosper. Disciplinary measures are formulated not as punitive actions, but as concerned attempts to foster responsibility for actions and to change and heal destructive behaviours.

Positive and responsible student behaviour is essential to the smooth running of the school, to the achievement of optimal learning opportunities, and to the development of a supportive and cooperative school environment.

The discipline practices used at Sacred Heart Parish School, therefore specifically aim to facilitate the development of self discipline within all students. From their first day in class, students are encouraged to recognise that their fundamental freedom and rights have reciprocal responsibilities. To ensure individual rights are respected, students work co-operatively to formulate class room expectation which are fair and reasonable. The school's rules and each classroom expectations are displayed within the classroom and regularly referred to by the teacher.

Once rules are established, a set procedure is followed. Students who misbehave are gently, yet firmly, called to settle back to the task at hand. Unsettling behaviour demands that very firm and clear rule reminders are issued. If misbehaviour continues, the student is called by name and directed to stop specific behaviour. Another rule reminder may be given. The student needs to make the choice, obey the rules and remain the classroom or be excluded temporarily from the classroom activity. Another warning may result in classroom exclusion and a meeting with the Principal. Another consequence may be time out for an agreed time.

## **EXCURSION/CAMPS – LOSS OF PRIVILEGES**

Excursion and camps place an added responsibility on teachers. Documentation prior to an excursion or camp includes preparing students by discussing the specific rules and behaviours required during this time. These rules may include issues, such as, sitting still on the seat in the bus, polite behaviour towards others, staying with group at all times. Consistent poor behaviour may result in exclusion from an excursion or whilst away on camp parents may be asked to come and collect student.

## **SERIOUS OFFENCE**

A serious offence by a student challenges the school to be responsive to the rights, welfare and special needs of the offender at the same time, to demonstrate a commitment to the welfare, rights and wellbeing of all members of the community. A serious offence is defined as actions or behaviours of a student which:

- Seriously undermines the ethos of the Catholic School
- Consistently and deliberately fail to comply with any lawful direction of the teacher
- Is offensive, or dangerous to the physical or emotional health of any student or staff member
- Consistently and deliberately interferes with the educational opportunities of others
- Is offensive, in that the child seriously damages the property of another child, or the property of the school

#### **PROCEDURES FOR DEALING WITH SERIOUS OFFENCES**

- Only to be taken when all attempts to have the student comply, have failed to produce a satisfactory result. If this occurs parents will be contacted, a meeting scheduled and the situation discussed openly.
- Documentation of offences, detailing date, situation and behaviour

#### **POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR**

- We will provide a wide range of positive extra-curricular activities for students including sporting, theatrical, leadership, community service and appropriate leisure pursuits.
- Positive student engagement = Happy Students

#### **CURRICULUM**

- The school curriculum will incorporate programs that address resilience, peer pressure, positive choices, bullying, conflict resolution and leadership.

#### **CORPORAL PUNISHMENT**

**Sacred Heart Parish School prohibits any form of corporal punishment from any member of the community.**

This policy is available in the staff and parent handbooks and on the school website:

[www.shsandringham.catholic.edu.au](http://www.shsandringham.catholic.edu.au)

#### **Evaluation:**

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's four-year review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by the staff and leadership team

**February 2017**