



PASTORAL CARE POLICY 2018

Rationale

A fundamental belief for Catholic schools is that in Jesus is seen God's image and likeness in its human expression, and that Jesus' values and teachings show all people 'the way, the truth and the life' (*John 14:6*). In accordance with this belief, values to be promoted within a Catholic school's understanding and practice of pastoral care include love, respect, compassion, tolerance, forgiveness, repentance, reconciliation and justice.

Pastoral care of students in the context of this policy refers to action taken within a school by its leaders and community members to promote and enhance student wellbeing of a personal, social, physical, emotional, mental or spiritual nature. Key elements of student wellbeing are positive self-regard, respect for others, positive relationships, responsible behaviours and personal resilience.

Pastoral care of students is effected in many aspects of school life, and especially in a school's vision and mission statements, policies, procedures, programs, teaching and learning curriculum, student activities, student support and wellbeing services, behaviour management processes, family engagement, community partnerships, and school climate.

Goals

- To uphold and sustain policies and practices which foster the Gospel values of mutual respect, responsibility and service to others.
- To provide Pastoral Programs that are aimed at meeting the life needs of members and to provide them with every opportunity to value themselves and to feel safe and secure.
- To provide an environment that is sensitive to diverse cultural, family, socio-economic, disability or gender structures.
- To foster supportive school/family relationships.

These goals can be implemented through our:

- Student Wellbeing Program
- Integration and Special Needs Policy
- Seasons Program
- Religious Education / Sacramental Programs
- Prep / Grade 6 Buddy System
- Behaviour Management Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Parent Helpers eg. Learning space support, lunch orders, bookclub.
- Student Representative Council
- Grade Six Leadership Program
- PIN's program
- First Aid
- Daily prayer and homeroom gatherings

Updated July 2018