



St Peter's Coleambally

A Community of Faith

PASTORAL CARE and WELLBEING POLICY

Our Vision

St Peter's is a community of faith built on the rock of Gospel Values empowering the individual to contribute positively to an ever changing world.

Our Mission

Our Mission is based upon this policy which has been developed and it encompasses the following aspects:

- A Community of Faith
- A Community of Learning
- A Community of Care
- A Community of Service
- A Community of Stewardship

Pastoral Care and Wellbeing Policies for students and staff:

- I. Pastoral Care Policy
- II. Behaviour Management Policy / Discipline (see separate policies)
- III. Anti-bullying Policy (see separate policy)
- IV. Corporal Punishment

Bishop Hanna's Mandate - Care

"Care - Building caring and supportive environments that promote wellbeing and learning

Care of persons in Catholic schools is founded on the inviolable dignity of the human person made in the image and likeness of God. 'The Catholic school is a school for all, with special attention to those who are weakest'. This radical inclusiveness is a clear expression of and witness to Christ's life and teaching by a school community. Therefore, each school is to be sensitive to the particular and unique needs of the local community and respond with compassion and kindness. Concomitantly, the Catholic Schools Office has a duty to support schools as they discern and address these needs." (Continuing the Adventure, Bishop Hanna's Mandate 2011)

Pastoral Care/Wellbeing Committee

Due to the size of the school all teachers are part of the Pastoral Care/Wellbeing Committee to co-ordinate the pastoral care and wellbeing practices and procedures at St Peter's School. This team meets regularly or as needed to devise a support plan for individual students who require additional assistance. The Diocesan online Student Wellbeing Identification, Management and Support (SWIMS) will be used.

Pastoral Care Policy

At St Peter's School we aim to provide an accepting, affirming and just environment for our whole school community. We will ensure that the dignity and worth of each member of the community is respected.

We believe that Pastoral Care-

- Is living the Gospel message 'Love one another' Jn 13.34
- Creates and fosters an environment where Christ-like values permeate the school community
- Is a responsibility for all – staff, students, parents, Parish Priest and the wider community
- Is the concern that we, as a school and as individuals, have for the development of the person to reach their full potential – social, emotional, spiritual, intellectual and physical
- Is aimed at acknowledging and responding to each individual in the school community
- Is congruent with clear, consistent and just practices
- Should always be congruent with a basic value of respect for the dignity of the individual.

Resources used:

- o Making Jesus Real (not used since 2015)
- o Peer Support Program

At St Peter's School we adhere to the Diocese of [Wagga Wagga Pastoral Care Policy](#)

To enhance our beliefs, school practices may include-

- Well-being committee
- Masses/Liturgies – these may be class or whole school.
- Assemblies – birthdays, class items, recognition of student achievement via merit awards
- Social functions – whole school activities
- Staff acknowledge and celebrate birthdays and other special occasions together
- Celebrations with families
- Visitations and support from Parish Priest
- Merit Awards
- Prayer opportunities/Prayer intentions
- Norm setting and on-going review
- Leadership Team – student and school executive
- Regular communication, eg. phone calls, newsletter, informal/formal teacher and parent meetings
- Behaviour management plans
- Relevant school and class programs
- Access to support agencies for school community members, eg. Centacare
- Health program
- Teaching of Expected Behaviours, eg. entry into classroom
- Classroom/Playground norming – Student Rights and Responsibilities
- School Counsellor
- Clear understanding of choices/consequences – children knowing language
- Personal Safety – PD/H/PE
- Truthfulness creates opportunities for forgiving and growing
- Peer Support Program
- We adopt and implement the CSO Anti-Bullying Policy

Behaviour Management Policy

The Behaviour Policy at St. Peter's Primary School aims to provide a safe, caring and supportive learning and teaching environment. The policy helps students to demonstrate responsible behaviour and a sense of self-worth, respect and consideration for the feelings, rights and property of others. It also aims to maximise opportunities for learning and teaching.

It is a separate document and can be found [here](#).

In the event of a serious event occurring as defined by CSO policy, the following steps will be followed.

1. Student(s) / incident referred to the Principal
2. Incident will be documented
3. Parents will be notified and informed of the incident
4. Counselling may be offered
5. If necessary, a behaviour management plan will be developed and implemented

Link to [CSO Discipline Policy](#)

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF ALL

Rights A right is something that belongs to you and cannot be taken away by anyone

Responsibilities A responsibility is something you should do for others and yourself.

It is respecting yourself and the rights of others.

Right	Responsibility
I have the right to deepen my faith in our Catholic community	I have the responsibility to respect and help others on their journey to God
I have the right to be treated with understanding	I have the responsibility to treat others with understanding
I have the right to be treated with respect and politeness	I have the responsibility to respect all stake holders in our community
I have the right to expect my property to be safe	I have the responsibility not to steal, damage or destroy the property of others
I have the right to have my achievements recognised by the community	I have the responsibility to act in ways that allow the community to recognise and respect school achievements
I have the right to a pleasant, clean and safe school	I have the responsibility to help maintain a pleasant, clean and safe school
I have the right to be helped to learn self-discipline	I have the responsibility to learn self-discipline
I have the right to seek help when enough is enough	I have a responsibility to recognise when my actions are hurting others
I have the right to be valued as a person	I have the responsibility through my behaviour to value others
I have the right to be helped by others	I have the responsibility to help others
I have the right to be myself	I have the responsibility to respect all, and the differences in others
I have the right to learn	I have the responsibility to learn to the best of my ability and to let others learn without interruptions
I have the right to express my feelings and opinions in a courteous way	I have the responsibility to allow others to express their opinions and feelings in a courteous way

Anti-Bullying Policy

St Peter's School seeks to be a place of acceptance, affirmation and justice. We believe bullying strikes at the very basis of these values and prevents students from reaching for excellence in every dimension of life. The students are entitled to receive their education free from humiliation, oppression and abuse.

The Anti-Bullying Policy can be found [here](#).

Link to [CSO Anti Bullying Policy](#)

Corporal Punishment

All employees are aware that corporal punishment is prohibited.

Corporal punishment involves the application of physical force to punish or correct a student unless that physical contact is reasonable and necessary for the protection of any person.

Taken from Code of Professional Standards – Diocese of Wagga Wagga

5. Student Management

Student discipline practices in Catholic schools aim to facilitate the development and experience of responsible self-discipline amongst students and to promote the wellbeing, safety and effective management of the school community.

It is the responsibility of each employee to develop effective, consistent and appropriate management strategies in day to day interactions with students as a preventative system of behaviour management. These strategies should include a clear, consistent and graded method of dealing with inappropriate behaviours and should be developed in accordance with the school's Pastoral Care, Student Management and Discipline policies. It is the responsibility of each employee to be familiar with these policies.

As a general rule, employees will use their management strategies in their initial dealings with students. However, students who display recurrent challenging behaviours, particularly unsafe behaviours should be referred to the appropriate person in line with the school's policy and procedures. Where a student's behaviour is unable to be managed by the implementation of the school's policies, an individual behaviour management plan should be developed for that student. All employees should be made aware of this individual management plan and act in accordance with the procedures documented in this plan.

The following behaviour management practices are unacceptable:

- Using an object, such as a ruler, book, duster, chalk or whiteboard marker to gain a child's attention in a hostile or an inappropriate physical manner;
- Restraining a student for any purpose other than a student's actions causing imminent harm to self or others;
- Hitting or kicking a student;
- Holding a student (other than for the circumstances outlined in section 5);
- Pushing, pulling, shoving, grabbing, pinching or poking a student;
- Shaking or throwing a student;
- Intimidating a student;
- Swearing at a student;

- Using sarcasm to humiliate;
- Locking a student in a confined space;
- Refusing biological needs as a means of punishment;
- Applying painful or noxious conditions;
- Criticising a student rather than the student's actions;
- Practices which instil fear, or using fear as a means of controlling a student;
- Practices which cause a student to feel alienated;
- Exposing a student to material that contains violent or inappropriate sexual messages or themes, or contains adult concepts or themes that are inappropriate to the student's age or curriculum expectations;
- The use of psychotropic medication to manage a student's behaviour, as opposed to treatment for a diagnosed conditions.

All employees at St Peter's Primary School are aware that corporal punishment is prohibited and will not occur.

[Child Protection Code of Professional Standards](#) Wagga Catholic Schools Office

Reviewed and Updated July 2017