

ST. JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL JUNEE

# DISCIPLINE POLICY



**Written:** February 2018

**Date to be reviewed:** February 2019

Our school, St Joseph's, is Christ centred, guided by its motto "Christ Our Way". All school community members endeavour to facilitate each child's journey by being dynamic in direction and strong in service.

In being Christ Centred we will:

- Build the Kingdom of God through our personal relationship with Jesus by providing an atmosphere that encompasses prayer and reverence amongst staff and students.
- Ensure that the children have an understanding of the Gospel values to develop a faith based relationship with Jesus.
- Develop knowledge, beliefs and practices of the Catholic faith through prayer, liturgy and the teaching of our Religious Education and Sacramental Programs.

In being Dynamic in Direction, we will:

- Provide a holistic education that develops an ongoing love of learning by incorporating innovative and enriching teaching and learning activities into our teaching practice to meet the changing needs of our world.
- Encourage students and teachers to strive for excellence by fostering and supporting them to make the best possible use of their individual gifts and talents.
- Affirm the dignity of the individual and cater for each student's and family's needs by honouring differences in abilities, cultures and interests while respecting each person's journey.

In being Strong in Service, we will:

- Give each student an education that is professional, current, relevant and integrated, by staff who are committed to lifelong learning.
- Provide leadership that models service to others by being active members of the parish, school and local communities.
- Offer each student the opportunity to develop leadership qualities that will serve them and their community, now and in the future.
- Ensure that discipline is just and fair so that it nurtures strong values and morals that promote self-responsibility and good citizenship.

The Discipline Policy at St. Joseph'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.

We believe that positive behaviour can be developed and supported through:

- The provision of a relevant and age appropriate curriculum;
- The provision of opportunities to negotiate learning tasks;
- Encouraging students to make positive choices about how to satisfy their needs;
- High expectations for students and their learning;
- Empathy for students' out-of-school lives;
- Acknowledgement, reinforcement and feedback for appropriate behaviour;
- Norm-setting, and
- The provision of time out for students so that teachers can teach more and manage less.

Students develop their own set of Classroom Norms and Consequences in co-operation with the teacher. Classroom consequences are agreed, logical, clear and appropriate. As a guide, class rules may encompass the following:

- Communication eg. 'talking rule'; hands up; working noise
- Learning eg. on task expectation; how to ask for help
- Movement eg. in and around the room; lining up; chairs
- Treatment eg. the way we treat one another; property; furniture
- Problem Solving eg. the way we 'fix up' problems with others
- Safety eg. use of equipment; safe behaviour.

The Principal is involved in dealing with inappropriate behaviour which is repeated, illegal, dangerous or totally unacceptable. The school does not hesitate to contact parents when behaviour and discipline issues arise at this level. Parents will be called immediately to come to the school and remove their child Home' if a student reaches the suspension or exclusion level of the discipline policy.

**Corporal Punishment will not be used at St Joseph's Primary School.  
Corporal Punishment is not condoned by the school in out of school hours.**

**St Joseph's School does not explicitly or implicitly sanction the use of corporal punishment by non-school persons, including parents, to enforce discipline at school.**

#### Suspension, expulsion and exclusion of students

St. Joseph's School has adopted and follows the Diocese of Wagga Wagga 'Suspension, Exclusion and Expulsion Policy and Procedures' on the school's registration site.

Procedural Fairness

All policies and procedures to do with pastoral care and discipline are underpinned by the principle of procedural fairness which is all stakeholders having the right to be heard.

See also Behaviour Policy 2017.