



# Our Lady Help of Christians Primary School

## Policy Statement Student Behaviour Policy

VRQA

Ratified June, 2017

Revise June, 2020

### **Rationale**

The Student Behaviour Policy and procedures at Our Lady Help of Christians School, Murtoa seek to respect the dignity of each person; build inclusive, supportive and caring relationships; foster compassion and forgiveness; and provide information about the practice of developing and promoting respectful behaviours.

As a Catholic school we are committed to fostering the dignity, self-esteem and integrity of all students and providing them with a safe, supportive and enriching environment to develop spiritually, physically, intellectually, emotionally and socially.

### **Policy Statement**

At Our Lady Help of Christians School we are committed to providing a safe, secure and stimulating Christ centred learning environment for all students. Students can reach their full learning potential only when they are happy, healthy and safe, and when there is a positive school culture to engage and support them in their learning. Our school acknowledges that student wellbeing and student learning outcomes are inextricably linked and therefore every member of the school community has a right to fully participate in an educational environment that is safe, supportive and inclusive.

### **Guiding Principles**

1. Foundational to the nature of student behaviour in Catholic schools is the belief that each person is created in the image and likeness of God (Genesis 1:27) with the inherent dignity that this implies, and all are created as social beings, with the mutual rights, obligations and needs that this implies
2. Student behaviour in Catholic schools affirms and gives expression to the belief that the person of each individual human being, in his or her material and spiritual needs, is at the heart of Christ's teaching, this is why the promotion of the human person is the goal of the Catholic school.
3. Student wellbeing is best achieved within a school environment that is safe, supportive, inclusive and empowering, where diversity is respected and valued, where human rights and the common good are honoured, where inter-relationships are positive, where students experience connectedness and engagement, and where those experiencing difficulty or special needs receive particular care and support.
4. Enhanced student wellbeing contributes significantly to improved student learning outcomes. Effective student behaviour management, as an element of pastoral care, is therefore recognised as promoting the achievement of learning outcomes and contributing positively to a school improvement framework.
5. Effective whole of school approaches to pastoral care require age appropriate behavioural education and skilling of students, and pastorally driven management of student behavior through processes focused on both individual and community wellbeing, and on ensuring a just and reasonable balance of individual and community rights, needs and responsibilities.
6. Discipline will be applied in a way that is proportionate to the behaviour and upholds procedural fairness.

[Corporal Punishment is prohibited in all Victorian school. Corporal punishment must Not be used at the School under any circumstances.](#)

## Implementation

In light of our Student Behaviour Policy and these guiding principles at Our Lady Help of Christians School we will;

- Collaboratively develop and implement a fair and respectful whole-school engagement and behaviour management approach
- Ensure that the school's curriculum includes pro-social values and behaviour to enable students to acquire knowledge and skills, value diversity and build a culture of learning, community and engagement
- Promote active student participation in the life of the school and provide students with a sense of ownership in their school environment
- Support families to engage in their child's learning and build their capacity as active learners
- Promote active student participation as an avenue for improving student outcomes and facilitating school improvement
- Establish social / emotional and educational support for vulnerable students and monitor and evaluate progress
- Have processes in place to identify and respond to individual students who require additional assistance and support
- Build strong links with the local community to gain access to an extended network of community members, professionals and educators who can provide expertise and experience that can build the capacity of our school and our teachers to respond to the needs of the students
- Fully implement the BDSAC's "Guidelines for Behaviour Support" (2016).

This Policy should be read in conjunction with;

"Pastoral Care Policy" - Ballarat Diocesan Schools Advisory Council's

"Code of Conduct for Caring for Children" - Professional Standards Catholic Diocese of Ballarat

"Whole School Approaches to Supporting Positive Student Behaviour" (2015) - CECV

"Safe and Sound Practice Guidelines (Occupational Violence)", (2014) – CECV

"Guidelines for Behaviour Support" (2016) – Catholic Education Office Ballarat