



## STUDENT PASTORAL CARE POLICY

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Catholic Education Policy 2.26 on the Pastoral Care of Students in Catholic Schools (2016).

### Context

Within the Catholic Religious Tradition the fundamental tenet of all people are to be treated with dignity and respect is founded on the belief that we are “created in the image and likeness of God.” (Gen. 1: 27). It is from this basis, and with the overarching educational philosophy of the Charisms of the Presentation Sisters and the De La Salle Brothers, that the pastoral care of students is addressed. Along with the Gospel Values of love, respect, compassion, forgiveness and kindness, we aim to educate the whole person with dignity and justice.

In partnership with parents, staff see it as part of their role to support and encourage the young person's all round development, including their cognitive, interpersonal, social, aesthetic, physical, moral and spiritual growth. Staff at St John's Regional College are committed to the young person's general wellbeing and in educating young people, who can take their place as informed, principled and engaged members of society.

### Formulation

Deputy Principal – Students and Pastoral Wellbeing Committee.

### Gospel Values

All students in the College Community have the right to be treated as equal and valued individuals with their personal growth unhindered by discriminatory or anti-social behaviour.

All members of the College Community will respect the unique value and dignity of the person and maintain the individual as their focus. As a faith community, we will nurture each other's growth in the values lived by Jesus Christ (Mission Statement).

### Guidelines

St John's Pastoral Care Policy will ensure that:

- staff members are informed of their responsibilities and understand College expectations of professional behaviour in their Duty of Care to students;
- staff members and programs will focus on the social, emotional, spiritual, intellectual and physical development of the person to full potential;
- staff members and programs will promote a respectful, secure and healthy environment in which students can have an authentic learning experience and develop a sense of connectedness to community;
- discipline policies and processes outlined in SJRC Guidelines for Managing Student Wellbeing are consistent with the Catholic Education Policy on Pastoral Care;
- staff members have clearly defined protocols and processes in order to ensure the effective wellbeing of students; and
- Student Welfare Contacts have structures and processes in place outlined in the SJRC Guidelines for Managing Student Wellbeing and the Protect Protocols to meet the needs of students and where appropriate refer students at grave risk to external agencies.

### Consequences

The College will:

- implement proactive student wellbeing programs that anticipate and address the pastoral needs of students;
- conduct Student Support Meetings (SSMs) on a regular basis to ensure the effective case management of students with specific social-emotional and/or academic issues;
- inform staff and students of the College's Code of Student Conduct (Respect, Rights & Responsibilities), and its Anti-Harassment and Anti-Discrimination Policy; and
- provide staff with relevant Professional Development.

**Reviewed and Ratified by the Advisory Board on 19 March 2019**