



## St. Bernadette's Primary School

# STUDENT DISCIPLINE AND BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT POLICY

### Rationale:

Student behaviour management at St Bernadette's Primary school seeks to protect personal and school community safety, heal destructive behaviours, restore relationships, encourage reconciliation, enhance wellbeing, foster responsibility, enable personal growth, and promote the common good. This school **does not** permit corporal punishment.

### Goals:

The ultimate goal of discipline/behaviour management is to teach children self-discipline and an understanding of the consequences of their behaviour.

St Bernadette's practices Restorative Justice. We have adopted the beliefs and philosophy behind Restorative practice and it is used to repair and rebuild relationships. (See Appendix 1) All inappropriate behaviour will be dealt with restoratively by all staff.

### Approach to Discipline:

The essence of the school's discipline approach is restorative justice and positive reinforcement.

Children will be praised both in the yard and in the class for displaying appropriate behaviours. Our aim is to reinforce each child daily.

In the classroom teachers will encourage positive behaviour through:

- Stickers
- Reward time
- Allowing children to choose direction of an activity
- Class awards/games/extra play
- Negotiated awards
- Verbal praise
- Positive statement about work.

Positive behaviours will be recognized at assembly through awarding school and class awards. In the yard and corridor a school wide reinforcement program will be implemented.

## **Norms**

To protect the rights of all and to uphold our responsibilities, the following rules have been developed for students and staff of our community.

### **Classroom Norms**

- Follow instructions the first time so we can work effectively.
- Listen to others in the same way we expect them to listen to us.
- Respect others
- Respect the property of others.

**Class norms will be generated and displayed in classrooms at the beginning of each year.**

**School norms will be discussed and explained to each class at the beginning of the year.**

### **School Norms**

1. Show courtesy and respect at all times
2. Follow instructions and bells promptly
3. Walk quietly in the corridors
4. Enter and leave school through the correct doors.
5. Speak positively
6. Place rubbish in bins
7. Wear your hat/uniform properly
8. Keep your hands and feet to yourself
9. Ask permission to leave the school grounds
10. Respect school property

**The process for dealing with inappropriate behaviour at St Bernadette's is through restorative meetings and circle time. (see Appendix 1)**

## **Bullying**

Bullying behaviour is a whole community concern. This policy addresses school yard, classroom and cyber-bullying (see also ICT policy, Staff bullying and harassment policy & Parent handbook.) bullying in a positive way by developing the following strategies within the community:

1. Anti- harassment strategies
2. Development of positive student and community behaviours
3. Encouragement of a Christian and caring aspect to the community
4. Highlighting and promoting positive behaviour.
5. Generating a secure, purposeful learning environment.

**For serious breaches of relationships such as:**

1. Leaving the school grounds without permission
2. Throwing missiles
3. Abusive language
4. Severe physical/verbal abuse towards others
5. Wilful damage of property

Serious cases of violence towards students or teachers will result in parents being asked to immediately remove the child. At a circle time following the incident strategies will be discussed with the possibility of suspension either inside or outside the school. If inappropriate behaviour continues the CEO will be requested to assist in seeking an alternative placement for the child. On advice from the CEO conditions of enrolment may apply.

**A restorative circle time will be facilitated with children, parents, Principal and Wellbeing coordinator.**

**This policy attempts to implement the values that we hold as ideals in our Catholic school, and attempts, through creating an atmosphere of faith and love, hope and understanding to enable all members of our community to develop a healthy respect of all people in their lives and a chance out into reality the call make to every Christian.**

**Love one another as I have loved you.**

### **Evaluation**

The application of this policy will be monitored regularly. The policy will be reviewed as part of the school's review cycle to ensure effective delivery and outcomes.

**Reviewed by:** Hannah Lucas, Jo Nolen & Kathy Lowe May 2012

**Review:** 2015

# APPENDIX 1

## **RESTORATIVE PRACTICE:**

*Restorative: to give back; to repair the harm and rebuild; to integrate the person(s) who did the harm; restore a sense of wellbeing and connection.*

*The philosophy and practice of restorative justice in schools is to promote resilience in both the one who is harmed and the one who causes harm. It is about helping young people become aware of the impact of their behaviour on others through personal accountability and being open to learning from conflict situations. Marist Youth Care, Sydney (2004)*

## **Rationale:**

Education in schools is largely about relationships, which can often develop into conflicts which require resolution, forgiveness and healing. Restorative practices help students learn from their mistakes and reconcile and resolve problems with others.

The aim of this initiative is for schools to develop an understanding of restorative justice and learn skills and practices for use in the classroom. It is acknowledged that these prevention measures may lead to and / or require the use of interventions for more serious offences.

It is hoped that consistent use of restorative practices in a school setting will change attitudes and represent a philosophical shift in thinking about students and problem behaviours away from the use of punishment, to the management of situations using a restorative approach.