

Rationale

Diocese of Ballarat Catholic Education Limited (DOBCEL) is committed to fostering a positive culture and a safe and inclusive learning environment. The dignity of each person is to be respected at all times. This implies that each person cooperates with mutual trust and respect so that all students are able to fully participate in an environment that enriches their spiritual, physical, intellectual, emotional and social growth and outcomes.

From time to time, students, for various reasons, engage in inappropriate behaviours. The response and educative process in understanding this behaviour by others, can either hinder or assist in long-term positive behaviours of the individual. It is important, therefore, to have a whole school approach to expectations, development of knowledge, skills and capabilities, support, response and management of student behaviour that is consistent with the school's vision.

Policy Statement

All Schools provide a whole school approach to behaviour management that is based on developing student knowledge skills and capabilities in understanding and demonstrating positive behaviours. Schools also provide clear expectations, processes and consequences that will be implemented if there is inappropriate behaviour.

Principles

All Schools support and give expression to the belief that each individual is at the heart of Christ's teaching through fostering wellbeing and pastoral care.

Enhanced student wellbeing contributes significantly to improved student learning outcomes. Effective student behaviour management, as an element of pastoral care, is therefore, recognized as promoting the achievement of learning outcomes and contributing positively to school improvement.

Student engagement and regular attendance assists in developing appropriate behaviours through the implementation of whole school strategies supported by targeted and individualised support when required.

Effective whole-of-school approaches to behaviour management requires developmentally appropriate education and the skilling of students through explicit teaching. The teaching will focus on individual and community knowledge of school wide positive behaviour that encourages a just and reasonable balance of individual and community values, rights, needs and responsibilities.

Discipline will be applied in a way that is proportionate to the behavior (more importantly knowledge of student's ability to cope in various situations) and upholds procedural fairness. When a student is 'disciplined', preventative planning for behaviours and interventions used will be considered. **It will not include, under any circumstances, corporal punishment.**

Actions and consequences (planned responses to behaviour) will have an educational role and aim to foster positive relationships and retain the dignity of students.

Every member of the school community has a right to fully participate in an educational environment that is safe, supportive and inclusive. The safety and wellbeing of others will be an important consideration in determining the actions and consequences to inappropriate behaviour.

The school wide approach will be consistent with Catholic Education Ballarat, *Guidelines for Behaviour Support* (2016).

Schools respect privacy and data protection legislation and will not divulge outcomes of actions or consequences other than to the individual student's parents.

To implement this policy, the school will follow the *Behaviour Management Procedures* (CECV) and the *Ballarat Guidelines for Behaviour Support* (2017)

Key Related Documents

This Policy should be read in conjunction with:

- Ministerial Order No 870 – Child Safe Standards – Managing the risk of child abuse in schools
- Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005 (Vic)
- Disability Discrimination Act 1992
- Privacy Act 1988
- Duty of Care Policy
- Learning and Teaching Policy
- Pastoral Care Policy
- CECV Child Safety Commitment Statement
- Pastoral Care Policy - Ballarat Diocesan Schools Advisory Council
- 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.
- Privacy and Data Protection Act (Vic) 2014
http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/vic/num_act/padpa201460o2014317/