Pastoral Care and Welfare Policy

Related Policies
St Bernard’s Anti Bullying Policy
St Bernard’s ICT Policy
St Bernard’s Code of Conduct Policy
St Bernard’s Learning Support Policy
CEO Student Management (Discipline) Policy
CEO Restraint of Students
CEO Suspension of Students Policy
CEO Exclusion, Expulsion and Transfer of Students Policy
CEO Child Protection and Mandatory Reporting Policy

VISION
Our Vision is to foster a learning environment based on St John's Gospel “That All May Be One”.

We strive to make a difference by:

- Providing excellence in primary education
- Nurturing a living experience of faith
- Developing responsible citizens inspired for tomorrow’s changing world
- Providing a supportive environment for families in partnership with the school and wider community.

School Rules
Treat each other with respect
Help each other learn
Keep ourselves and others safe
Wear our uniform properly
Care for our school environment

Purpose
This Policy outlines the belief statements about Pastoral Care and Welfare for children and families who attend St Bernard’s Primary School, Batemans Bay.

Definitions

Corporal Punishment
Corporal punishment means physical force applied to punish or correct, and includes any action designed or likely to cause physical pain or discomfort taken to punish or correct (Education Act 2004).

We confirm the statement that St Bernard's Primary School does not permit corporal punishment of students attending the school, and that the school does not explicitly or implicitly sanction the administering of corporal punishment by non-school persons (including parents) to enforce discipline at the school.

Policy Goals
The goals of the Pastoral Care and Welfare Policy at St Bernard’s Primary School are:

- promote an atmosphere of mutual respect and support by establishing a network of Christian relationships among the students, staff, parents, clergy and the wider community;
- ensure that Pastoral Care and Welfare is integral in all that we do;
- increase communication between home and school;
- encourage and affirm each other;
- ensure that each member of the community accepts responsibility for the Pastoral Care and Welfare of others;
- respect the rights and freedoms of each individual
- respect confidentiality;
- ensure that students, staff and parents are supported by the processes in place to support all students; and
- promote restorative justice practices that build relationships.

At St Bernard’s Primary School Pastoral Care is experienced:

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<td>School Board</td>
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<td>Sacramental Programs</td>
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<tr>
<td>After school care</td>
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Through the P&F / Board

Through school structures and policy

Through student participation

- Build community;
- Welcome new families to the school;
- Cater for special events
- Build parent networks;
- Assist families where a special need arises – eg. Food Bank
- Provide support and assistance to the teachers

- Vision Statements
- Curriculum Organisers
- Crisis Management
- Supervision of Students
- Pastoral Care and Welfare
- Sun Smart
- Mandatory Reporting
- Health
- Canteen
- WH&S

- Classroom Meetings
- Student Leadership - SRC
- Buddy System
  - Year 5 - Kinder
  - Year 6 – Year 1

We show Pastoral Care to others in our community

- Community Agencies
- Missions Office
- Caritas International
- St Vincent de Paul
- Various community groups

We are supported in our Pastoral care by

- Parish Priest
- Deacon
- Parish Pastoral Council
- Parish Associate
- CatholicCare which provides counselling and guidance
Strategies

Teachers at St Bernard’s agree to employ the following strategies to support the Pastoral Care and Welfare of all students:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Primary Strategies</th>
<th>Secondary Strategies</th>
<th>Tertiary Strategies</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Establish agreed Essential Agreements</td>
<td>• Remind or restate classroom Essential Agreements</td>
<td>• Use Restorative Practices to re-establish and rebuild working relationships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Recognise positive student behaviours through ‘Making Jesus Real’ Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Keep the students actively involved in tasks</td>
<td>• Allow time to complete tasks at lunch / recess</td>
<td>• Involve parents / caregivers</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Establish a time out area / opportunity within the room</td>
<td>• Time out space to reflect</td>
<td>• Develop work / behaviour contracts with student / parent / support teacher</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Use Restorative Practices</td>
<td>• Time Out Reflection (Appendices 1 &amp; 2)</td>
<td>• Apply a team approach to moving forward, including the school Executive</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Involve Executive member to support teacher in monitoring behaviour</td>
<td>• Work closely with parents to monitor and support student contracts</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Contact parent / care givers</td>
<td>• Use external agencies including CEO and CatholicCare services</td>
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Restorative Practices

St Bernard’s follows the principles of Restorative Practices when helping students, parents and teachers to resolve issues of interpersonal conflict. The Restorative Practices approach asks what has happened, who was harmed by what happened and what steps need to be taken to repair the harm. All parties involved in the conflict have the opportunity to voice their story and play a role in negotiating a resolution.

Implementation

The staff at St Bernard’s Primary School agrees that Pastoral Care and Welfare 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.

The staff employs the philosophy of Restorative Practices to promote resilience in the one harmed and the one causing harm. Restorative measures help students learn from their mistakes, grow in self-discipline, take responsibility for their actions, recognise the impact of their actions on others, and reconcile and resolve conflict with others.

The teachers at St Bernard’s Primary School agree to follow these practices:

• Acknowledge shared responsibility for all students;
• Negotiate and establish clear rights and responsibilities through developing Essential Agreements;
• Recognise the needs of individuals;
• Maximise students’ ownership of behaviour through Restorative Practices;
• Maintain impartiality;
• Follow up and follow through (consistency) with parents; and
• Utilise wide support (peers, staff, counselling support and parents).

If an incident escalates to Step 5 (see page 6) or the seriousness of an incident warrants immediate intervention, a child will be removed from the classroom/playground and a phone call will be made to the child’s parents by the supervising teacher the same day the incident occurs. A time-out will follow the next day at lunch-time with the Principal/Assistant Principal. The incident will be
discussed and the child will complete reflection questions (see Appendix 1). A letter will go home to the student’s family notifying them formally of the incident following the time out, with a copy of their response sheet. Reflection sheets are filed in the Principal’s office and formal letters are saved on the t-drive, under Behaviour Management. These are formatted in pdf as a record of behavioural patterns across the school. The family is required to sign the letter and return it to school as confirmation of receipt. Returned signed letters from parents are filed in the Principal’s office. The Principal follows up with a phone call as required.

**Essential Agreements and Rights and Responsibilities**

The teachers at St Bernard’s agree to implement Essential Agreements that incorporate agreed classroom and school wide rights and responsibilities. These Essential Agreements seek to be positive, specific and are explicitly taught to students. The Rights and Responsibilities outlined below are displayed in Years 2-6 classrooms. Modifications can be made in Years K-1 to simplify language used. These are taught within the first two days of Term 1 of each new school year, and revisited regularly.

**Expectations**

The teachers of St Bernard’s Primary School expect that all students seek to promote the rights and responsibilities of each member of the community:

**The right to be respected as a person**

**The responsibility to show respect for other people**

- We always speak politely to everyone and do not use inappropriate language under any circumstances
- We show our respect for teachers and others working in the school
- We include others in all activities in the classroom and the playground
- We respect ourselves by having pride and being honest
- We ask a teacher to help if there is a problem

**The right to learn**

**The responsibility to let everyone have a chance to learn**

- We always praise and affirm others
- We respond quickly to the quiet signal
- We always begin lessons on time
- We show whole body listening
- We have a go and persevere
- We answer the bell promptly
- We listen when others are speaking

**The right to feel safe at all times at school**

**The responsibility to ensure that everyone in our school is safe**

- We do not bully or tease others under any circumstances
- We always remain in sight of the teacher on duty
- We play fairly and to the rules
- We wear the full and complete uniform to encourage pride in our school
- We show respect for others at all times and we accept responsibility for our actions
- We walk safely around the school
- We walk our bikes in the school grounds
- We are not to be in the classroom during recess or lunchtime
- We tell the teacher if we are upset or offended by another person; and we never retaliate
- We follow the ‘NO HAT – NO PLAY’ policy
- We line up quickly and quietly
- Before school, we stay in the undercover areas until a teacher starts supervision

**The right to enjoy a pleasant, clean and healthy environment**

**The responsibility to keep our environment as pleasant and safe as possible**

- We place our rubbish in the correct bins provided
- We respect the resources of the school
- We keep our personal belongings tidy, including our desks, work books and all school property
- We finish eating sitting down before we play at lunch and recess
- We tell a teacher if we see a problem

**Consideration for Suspension**
Suspension of a student is a school matter but should not be used in the first instance of undesirable behaviour unless the Principal judges that such behaviour could cause grave moral and/or physical harm to other persons.

In NSW, students may be suspended, provided the Principal is satisfied that such action is warranted, such as when a student:

- Demonstrates consistent and wilful non-compliance;
- Acts violently or threatens violence;
- Drug-related behaviour;
- Sexual harassment of other students or staff;
- Threatens good order and
- Disrupts own learning or that of other children.

(See CEO Suspension of Students Policy)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
Student Welfare and Management Policy Documents from:
- Holy Trinity Curtin
- St Mary's Moruya

The policy will be reviewed not less frequently than once every three years.

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<tr>
<th>POLICY DATES</th>
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<tr>
<td>Formulated</td>
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<tr>
<td>Implemented</td>
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<td>Next Review Due</td>
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<tr>
<th>POLICY AUTHORISATION</th>
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<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
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[Signature]

[5] | P a g e
Step 1:
Rule reminder

Step 2:
Move away from distraction

Step 3:
Time out 5-10min in own classroom

Step 4:
Go to another classroom
(with reflection card) parents contacted

Step 5:
Go to the office
Step 1:
Rule reminder

Step 2:
Move away from distraction

Step 3:
Time out – parents told

Step 4:
Stay with the teacher on duty

Step 5:
Go to the office
Inappropriate Behaviour Notification 1

14 February 2014

Dear

Student’s Name: Class:

Please be advised that your child has breached the school rules in the following way/s:

- 

The choice of behaviour has affected:

- Whole Class Learning
- Playground Safety

Can you please continue to discuss our school’s expectations with your child so we can work together to achieve a safe and secure environment.

Please fill in the details below and return to your child’s classroom teacher by tomorrow.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further information.

Yours sincerely,

Supervising Teacher

Type name here

Inappropriate Behaviour Notification 1

Student’s Name: ___________________________ Class: ________________

Supervising Teacher’s Name: ___________________________

I hereby acknowledge receiving a phone call and note regarding my child’s recent behaviour.

We have spoken about this and the importance of behaving appropriately in the future and especially the need to follow school rules for the safety of all.

Signed: ________________________________ (Parent/Guardian)
Inappropriate Behaviour Notification 2

17 March 2014

Dear

Student’s Name: Class:

Please be advised that is the second time your child has breached school rules in the following way/s:

•

The choice of behaviour has affected:

Whole Class Learning

Playground Safety

If behaviour of this nature continues your child will be placed on an in-school suspension and a formal meeting will be scheduled.

I strongly encourage you to talk to your child about today’s incident and the consequences of their inappropriate behaviour.

Please fill in the attached note and return to me by tomorrow.

Yours sincerely,

Supervising Teacher

Type name here

Inappropriate Behaviour Notification 2

Student’s Name: _______________________________ Class: ____________

Supervising Teacher’s Name: _______________________________

I hereby acknowledge receiving this note (Note 2) regarding my child’s recent behaviour and will make an appointment to meet with you.

Signed _________________________ (Parent/Guardian)
Appendix 1

TIME OUT REFLECTION
Primary

Name: ______________________  Date: ______________

What I did:
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

Why I did it:
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

Who else was involved?
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

What I will do next time:
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

Teacher Comments:
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

Student’s signature: ______________________

Principal’s signature: ______________________
Appendix 2

TIME OUT REFLECTION
Junior Classes

Name: _____________________________

Class: _____________________________

Date: ______________________________

What I did:

What I should have been doing:

Student:  ______________________________________________

Principal: _____________________________________________
Appendix 3

STUDENT SUPPORT FORM

Child’s Name: _____________________________   Date ________________

Team Members _______________________________________________________

Areas of strength:

☐

☐

☐

Areas of concern:

☐

☐

☐

Initial areas of focus:

☐

☐

☐

Initial strategies:

☐

☐

☐

Follow up:

☐

☐

☐

Signed: ____________________________________________________________
Appendix 4

ACTION PLAN

Child’s Name: ____________________________ Date: ______________

Behaviour Management Team: ______________________________________

1. Strengths to build on and encourage
   •
   •
   •
   •

2. Main unacceptable behaviours
   •
   •
   •
   •

3. Behaviours to be focussed on initially
   •
   •

4. Steps to take when unacceptable behaviour is demonstrated
   •
   •
   •

5. If unacceptable behaviour continues
   •
   •

Good behaviour and cooperation will continually be reinforced and encouraged. Praise and positive reinforcement is our number one priority.