

St Mary's Parish School



St Mary's Pastoral Care Policy

Rationale

St Mary's School Pastoral Care policy has as its foundation the school motto: "Seek Truth through Knowledge."

Guiding principles

A primary goal of St Mary's School is to ensure students feel God's love through the people with whom they come into contact. It means that students learn about themselves, their strengths and their shortcomings. They develop the skills and attitudes to relate constructively with others.

These skills may include:

- Resilience
- Conflict resolution
- Self-motivation
- Assertiveness
- Organisation
- Relationship building

The following values come to play in the generation of positive relationships:

- Awareness of self and others.
- Honesty
- Openness
- Respect of self, others and property
- Responsibility
- Belief in the goodness of all
- Positive intent

Policy statement

The Pastoral imperative emerges from the metaphor of Jesus as shepherd. Jesus knows his flock and they know him. It refers to stewardship and care that is the responsibility of all who serve at St Mary's School.

Pastoral Care at St Mary's embodies and promotes a school environment that values Christ-like principles including:

- Development of the person as a whole- spiritually, physically, morally and academically.
- Developing self-respect and respect for others.
- Extending kindness, love, service, care and support to all within the school environment.
- Encouraging community involvement through service.
- Self-control and accepting the consequences of actions in order to make us honest with ourselves.

Consequences

"Seek Truth through Knowledge." To understand the truth of our Christian ethics of pastoral care, students will be continually exposed to the practice of pastoral care, to acquire the knowledge and develop ways to apply these truths in their everyday lives.

Knowledge is acquired through continual involvement of staff, peers and our Parish Priest in school life.

The school environment provides opportunities for students, staff, parents, Parish Priest and parishioners to deepen, through example, our knowledge of self, in order to embrace the Christ like truths of our Catholic schooling.

Pastoral care at St. Mary's strives to allow each student and staff member to both celebrate good times appropriately and come to terms with difficult times in a balanced and safe way.

Other Policies Linked to the Pastoral Care Policy:

Catholic Education Student Protection Guidelines.

Effective date

15th February 2021

Review date

1st March 2023