

**Our Lady Star of the Sea School Terrigal**



**Behaviour Management and Student Discipline Policy**

**PURPOSE**

At Our Lady Star of the Sea School, we believe that all students, their families and employees have the right to a safe and supportive learning environment. We all share a responsibility to teach, foster, promote and encourage positive behaviours from all students. At Our Lady Star of the Sea School we believe in adopting proactive strategies for defining, teaching, and supporting appropriate student behaviours to create a positive school environment to enhance learning.

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

At Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic School Terrigal, with Mary as our guiding light, we celebrate our Catholic identity and foster a sense of belonging in our community as we educate our children to grow in the love of Christ.

In partnership with families, we will:

Educate and nurture our children in the Catholic Faith and offer the experience of following Jesus.

Provide quality education which fosters a love of learning and inspires all children to reach their potential as members of the community.

Celebrate our Catholic identity with our Parish community .

Respect and value the uniqueness of every child in our school.

**OUR CORE VALUES**

We believe in RESPECT for Other, Selves and the Environment

We continue the MISSION of Jesus to bring the GOOD News to our school community and to share this with others.

We are a welcoming community where all can experience a sense of BELONGING.

We believe in a quality LEARNING environment where all children are confident and involved learners.

We are a Catholic community of FAITH where Jesus helps us to love one another.

## **POLICY FRAMEWORK**

Flowing from the Christian vision expressed in the Diocesan Pastoral Care Policy, schools are called to establish relationships which are grounded in love, compassion, reconciliation and justice.

Our school Behaviour Management and Student Discipline Policy takes into account the Diocesan Pastoral Care Policy, our school Pastoral Care Policy and the Behaviour Management and Student Discipline Policy for Diocesan Systemic Schools. Our approach to discipline has its basis in our pastoral care for each other – students, staff and parents.

*We believe that Pastoral Care:*

- *has the life of Jesus Christ as its focus;*
- *is concerned with the dignity and integral growth of the individual;*
- *is a responsibility entrusted to all members of the faith community;*
- *is a force for healing, reconciliation and liberation, and*
- *is an expression of, and commitment to, justice.*

*(Extract from Diocesan Pastoral Care Policy)*

## **DEFINITIONS**

- **Behaviour** is defined as anything a person says or does.
- **Appropriate Behaviour** is any behaviour that contributes to the positive learning environment.
- **Inappropriate Behaviour** is any behaviour that does not meet the school rules and behavioural expectations.
- **Challenging Behaviour** is behaviour that significantly challenges the day to day functioning of schools. The behaviour impacts on learning and interrupts students' and staff's capacity to function in a safe and orderly environment.
- **At Risk Behaviour** is any behaviour that could cause possible harm or injury to self or other. This includes physical, emotional or psychological harm.

## **POLICY CONTENT**

### **SCHOOL RULES AND BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS**

At Our Lady Star of the Sea our School Rules and Behavioural Expectations outline appropriate student behaviours that contribute to the functioning of our school as a safe and supportive learning environment. At Our Lady Star of the Sea School we believe in adopting proactive strategies for defining, teaching, encouraging and supporting appropriate student behaviours in order to enhance learning.

#### **Respect For Others**

- **Speak with kindness and respect**
- **Use safe and caring hands and feet**
- **Line up quietly after the bell**
- **Only including, no excluding**

#### **Respect For Self**

- **No hat, play in the designated shade area**
- **Wear correct uniform**

#### **Respect For The Environment**

- **Eat canteen food in undercroft**
- **Keep our school clean**
- **Share and care for personal and school property**

#### **Respect For Safety**

- **Sit down to eat**
- **Use equipment correctly**
- **Walk on hard surfaces**
- **Be in the right place at the right time**

## **PROCEDURES FOR TEACHING AND COMMUNICATING BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS**

In order to promote appropriate student behaviours, Our Lady Star of the Sea School community is committed to teach and practise the behavioural expectations as outlined above. The teaching of these expectations is seen to be proactive approach to preventing inappropriate behaviours, not merely in response to when breaches of our school rules occur.

- Regular focus on specific school rule : i.e. integrated in class program,

## **PROCEDURES FOR ENCOURAGING POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR**

Our Lady Star of the Sea School community is committed to acknowledge students in order to continue to encourage appropriate behaviours and adherence to school rules. We endeavour to acknowledge students through a variety of means.

- Weekly awards at assembly
- Classroom Behaviour management strategies, e.g. sticker charts, student of the week, table points, bike day, extra play time, Principal's award, jobs of responsibility
- Whole school rewards

## **PROCEDURES FOR RECORD KEEPING AND TRACKING**

In order to assist in the process of preventing the reoccurrence of inappropriate behaviours, Our Lady Star of the Sea School is committed to collecting data to help inform decision making.

- Serious Incidents documented and communicated to parents of inappropriate behaviour
- Individual teachers Behaviour Management records
- Individual Behaviour Management Plans in some cases
- Minutes from Restorative Justice Meetings, parent/ teacher meetings and parent/ teacher/ stage coordinator meetings
- Collecting data from observations of individual children

## **PROCEDURES FOR DISCOURAGING INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOURS**

Our Lady Star of the Sea Behaviour Management and Student Discipline Policy and practices are based on restorative principles and are respectful of the dignity, rights and fundamental freedom of individual students, and at the same time are focused on the effective running of the school for the benefit of all.

When responding to inappropriate student behaviours, staff are to remember the dignity of all student/s involved. When discouraging or correcting students' behaviours, staff are encouraged to use the least intrusive methods with the aim of preventing reoccurrence of inappropriate behaviours and encouraging the student to return to more appropriate behaviours. It is important to consider the age and stage of development of students and the capacity of students to understand what is required of them.

**Corporal punishment by any school staff member, contractor or volunteer is not permitted.**

- Inappropriate behaviours are recognised as any behaviour that does not meet the “School Rules and Behavioural Expectations” as outlined above – lower order behaviours.  
These are actively responded to by teacher on duty or classroom teacher.
- Inappropriate behaviours are identified as deliberate actions that are offensive and/or dangerous to the physical and/or emotional well being of other. The consistent and repeated occurrence of minor behaviours can be considered as major.

These behaviours are actively responded to by Teacher on playground duty , classroom teacher, Stage Coordinator, Wellbeing Coordinator, Assistant Principal/ Principal.

Included in this process where appropriate, is a Restorative Justice meeting , followed if necessary by a team meeting including all relevant parties and notification to parents.