



# St Joseph's School, Clare

## Behaviour Management Policy

### Context Statement

The Behaviour Management Policy at St Joseph's School, Clare is based on the 'new commandment' given by Jesus: *"You must love the Lord your God with all your heart; with all your soul, with all your strength and with all your mind; and love your neighbour as you love yourself"*. Luke 10:27

### Underlying Assumptions, Philosophy & Rationale:

At Saint Joseph's, Clare, we acknowledge that:

- the Behaviour Management Policy of the school is based on Gospel values
- home and school work together to support and reinforce Behaviour Management
- accepting the consequences for behaviour, decision making and responsible behaviour are best learnt in a caring and forgiving environment
- our behaviour management is not seen as a punishment; rather it involves counselling, encouragement and positive reinforcement of desirable behaviour.

### Purposes / Aims

Through application of this policy, Saint Joseph's School aims to make our school motto- *"To live, to learn, love in all things"*, a reality by:

- basing behaviour management on the gospel values of love, justice, reconciliation and respect
- creating a safe, caring, non-violent environment where everyone feels happy, secure and successful
- helping children grow by being aware of their behaviour choices, taking responsibility for their actions and developing problem solving skills
- being consistent and just.

### Guidelines in support of this policy

Saint Joseph's School will strive to be:

- a safe place for staff, students and visitors. Therefore, we will; supervise children during school hours, provide safe areas of play, ensure acceptable forms of play, encourage safe movement around the school and ensure safe bus travel
- a non-violent environment. Therefore, our goal is; no bullying or teasing, no aggressive play, or inappropriate language
- a happy and secure environment. Therefore, the children are encouraged; to be responsible for their behaviour, show respect towards others and their rights, and demonstrate an awareness of and show respect for their environment.

The Staff will support the aims by:

- modelling Gospel values, negotiation and displaying class responsibilities, as well as ensuring that all students are aware of class responsibilities and expectations.
- maintaining a safe, caring and non-violent Christian environment
- adhering to the classroom and yard behaviour management procedures
- being aware of other relevant policies and legal obligations
- keeping the Principal informed of relevant behaviour management matters.

The Principal will:

- ensure that the Gospel values of justice, reconciliation and respect for human dignity are modelled and supported in our school environment. Thus recognising the unique presence of God in all people
- ensure that the rights of teachers to teach and students to learn in a safe, caring, Christian environment are valued and protected.
- develop a rapport with students by visiting classrooms and being visible in the playground
- support parents, staff (including relief staff), volunteers and students by attending to problems and striving for consistency in yard and classroom behaviour management procedures
- integrate other relevant policies and legal obligations into the school's student Behaviour Management policy
- ensure that the school Behaviour Management Policy has a positive profile in the community by distributing copies of the policy to parents and teachers, conduct an annual policy review and recognising and rewarding positive behaviour.

The Students will:

- respect and support the rights of students, staff and visitors to participate fully in the teaching and learning processes
- be aware of, and take responsibility for their own behaviour choices
- participate in the formulation of class responsibilities and abide by them.

The Parents will:

- support the beliefs and aims of the school Behaviour Management Policy
- encourage their children to be responsible for their actions and to develop non violent responses.
- keep the principal and staff informed of behaviour management issues
- encourage their children to use the Anti Bullying and Harassment Procedures

Parents/Caregivers should refrain from directly confronting students and other parents (other than their own child/children) regarding issues relating to school behaviour. Such issues must be handled through the teaching staff or the school principal.

## Rights and Responsibilities

In our School everyone has the right to:

- Be safe
- Be treated fairly
- Be happy
- Play in a clean environment
- Be protected
- Be respected as a person

## Bases of Discretion

- Classroom Behaviour Management Procedures as appended
- Yard Behaviour expectations below
- Our Yard Responsibilities are:
  - Obey the yard duty teacher.
  - Speak respectfully to everyone / no swearing.
  - Respect other children's games and be prepared to share space.
  - Play without hitting or fighting (including play fighting).
  - Respect school property. Use all equipment appropriately.
  - Permission must be asked before leaving the school yard or entering out of bounds areas.
  - Classrooms are out of bounds during playtime unless teacher permission has been given.
  - Other out of bounds areas include on roofs, up trees, the area at the front of the school and by the hall.
  - Walk your bike to and from the school gate.
  - Walk only in inside areas including covered areas.
  - Bubble gum and chewing gum are not permitted inside the school grounds.
  - No bullying or harassment of others will be tolerated.

## Support Documents

- SACCS Document - "Policy for the Development of Personal Responsibility".
- School Information Book
- Bullying and Harassment Policy
- Rethink Procedure
- [Building Respectful Relationships Behaviour Education and Student Behaviour Support Procedure.pdf](#)
- [Building Respectful Relationships Behaviour Education and Student Behaviour Support Policy.pdf](#)
- Guidelines for Suspension & Expulsion  
[Building Respectful Relationships Procedures for Suspension and Cancelling Enrolment.pdf](#)
- [Behaviour Education and Personal Responsibility Policy.pdf](#)

Due for Review: February 2020 (August 2023 – currently being reviewed)