



St Joseph's School
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An introduction to Restorative Practices 2.0

Dear Families,

Our school has made a very important decision lately and that is to redefine and reimagine what it means to be a Restorative School in 2024. Using Restorative Practices isn't something we take lightly. We've been watching what's been happening in the world of education when it comes to creating a strong school culture, to building effective relationships, to resolving conflict and to improving student behaviour and bullying. The bottom line is that we think there's a better way.

A whole school approach to Restorative Practices is that way. Working restoratively is really all about asking the right questions to students when things go wrong. Many approaches have us putting our detective hats on and focusing everything in the past. It really doesn't get us very far because we never get to the present or the future.

Put simply, we'll be asking your children questions like:

- What happened?
- How has that made people feel?
- And what action needs to be taken to make that better?

Whilst some of these questions are already asked in our Re-think process, we want to make restorative language and conversations part of our whole school process.

It's all about teaching responsibility for your actions and knowing that nobody is going to do it for you. Our job is to help them do just that ... better and better and better.

There's a LOT more to Restorative Practices and we're going to ensure you find out all of it.

We have engaged a partnership with Real Schools, with Jemma Rust as our expert facilitator who will be walking alongside us in this journey. You can check out the Real School website for more information www.realschools.com.au.

We will continue to share information in this space, to support parents in our whole school approach. We are really excited to share this journey with our parent community. Stay tuned for more information on this exciting development for our school.

Please save the date- November 7- Real Schools Parent Engagement Session 7pm

All parents are strongly encouraged to attend. We know that we effectively support each other when we are coming from the same base and using the same language.

Below is a link (also available as QR code) for a short 3 minute video from Jemma Rust, explaining a bit more about Restorative Practices 2.0.



<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/cba178s84i19gnk2eqkj6/JR-Parent-Video-2-What-are-Restorative-Practices.mp4?rlkey=of9fdk3cas0ra4m46pxh9kxtc&e=1&st=9gvyn1qk&dl=0>

You don't need the drop box app, just click on the option to view in browser.

We look forward to working in partnership with all our families.

St Joseph's Leadership and Staff