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## STUDENT WELLBEING AND CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY

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### PREAMBLE

St Patrick's College, in the Good Samaritan tradition, values the wellbeing of each person in the community and acknowledges that the conduct of students is based on mutual respect for 'the dignity of each person' (Good Samaritan Philosophy of Education).

The College recognises that all students have an equal right to a safe, stable and supportive environment in which to learn. It acknowledges at the same time that all students are unique and so, as a Benedictine community, we show respect for individual differences so that 'the strong have something to strive for and the weak nothing to run from' (Rule of Benedict 64:9, Good Samaritan Philosophy of Education).

In establishing 'right relationships' within the College community, we acknowledge that feeling safe and supported is essential for student wellbeing and, in turn, effective learning in the classroom. In turn, the focus of the College is to foster quality relationships between staff and students with the aim of supporting and protecting the young women in our care. All staff members have a responsibility to support the wellbeing and care of the students in the College at all times.

The College does not accept harassment, bullying, intimidation, violence, abuse or corporal punishment at school or its use by members of the College community or non-school persons to enforce discipline at the College.

The following strategies are integral to sustaining positive relationships and effective learning:

- Relationships that encourage students to value themselves and others
- Programs which promote resilience and a respect for self
- Structures which recognise the value of the student as an individual
- Networks which emphasize care and wellbeing within the College
- Support systems which monitor, support and respond to student behaviour
- Support for students who are at risk and supportive of school and family relationships
- Commitment to restorative justice practices integrating reflective strategies which offer students the chance for reconciliation and an opportunity for a fresh start

### GUIDELINES

At St Patrick's College, academic progress and student wellbeing are inextricably connected. In the spirit of Academic Care, the College sets out to *foster relationships that aim to enhance the holistic development of the individual student*. In establishing positive rapport with students, the staff of the College will be actively involved in enhancing student learning, resilience and wellbeing through the development and promotion of Academic Care.

The Academic Care Framework has the focus on working with the students to ensure all are treated fairly. Strategies undertaken are always with the aim of restoring and sustaining positive relationships so that students feel safe and, in turn, value being part of an effective learning and teaching community.



## PROCEDURES

The Code of Rights and Responsibilities in the College Diary highlights the expectations that the members of the community, students and staff, will follow. This code offers a framework for the fair treatment of others. Every student has a right to learn and the staff have the right to teach without disruption. When a student does not meet these expectations, then procedures will be put in place to work with the student to restore the situation and allow them to stay in the classroom.

When a student does not meet these expectations, staff will refer to the Pastoral Care Guidelines, Flowchart of Response document, found in the College Diary. This flowchart allows for consistency of responses by College staff and carers for low, medium and high levels of student behaviour.

Consequences of a breach of the Code can include:

### **Low Level**

- A conversation with the teacher involved
- A demerit entered on the pastoral database
- Community service

### **Medium Level**

- A demerit entered on the pastoral database
- A conversation with a KLA or Year Coordinator
- A lunch detention
- Parent contact

### **High Level**

- Afternoon detention
- Parent contact
- Formal interview with Assistant Principal Students
- Suspension
- Formal interview with the College Principal to review enrolment

**NB** – Suspension of a student from class can only be done under the direction of the College Principal or her delegate

The College makes it a priority to work with parents/carers to find the most appropriate response to a student's behaviour.