



Pastoral Care Policy for Sancta Maria College

Framework

In the supportive environment of the College students are known and cared for and encouraged to develop their diverse gifts and talents. The College aims to be a happy, safe and welcoming place and students share in the responsibility for contributing to the happiness and well-being of every person in the College community.

Aims of Pastoral Care

We seek to nurture, affirm, challenge and inspire the students to be young women of integrity who use their spiritual, intellectual and physical gifts for themselves and for the communities in which they live. Spiritual care for students aims to encourage students to engage with the spiritual dimension of their lives — that is, to question their environment, to reflect on their experience, to search for meaning and to express their spiritual being. Academic care for students aims to recognise and develop the different gifts of each student; it aims to develop and affirm, suited to ability, the knowledge and skills of each student. Academic care recognises the different supports that students may need for this development.

Expectations of student behaviour as expressed in the school code of behaviour aim to develop the self-discipline and personal responsibility.

Through the wide range of curricular and co-curricular opportunities offered by the school, the pastoral care of each student aims to develop individual talent and ability.

Implementation of Pastoral Care

Pastoral care is carried out throughout the school's daily work of teaching and learning, but most notably through the following:

- Policies and procedures we have in place, such as:
 - Code of Behaviour including Rewards and Affirmation and Code of Discipline, Anti-Bullying Policy, Child Protection and Welfare
- Programmes such as
 - Religious Education programme
 - Learning Support and Resource
- Services such as
 - Chaplaincy, Career Guidance and Counselling services
- Structures such as:
 - Tutor group/time

- Prefect system and Student Council
- Communication methods
- Information management

- Roles and responsibilities such as:
 - Teachers
 - Year Head and Tutor
 - Chaplain
 - Career Guidance Counsellor
 - Counsellor
 - Anti-bullying Co-ordinator
 - Care Team
 - Designated Liaison Person
 - Learning Support, Resource Teachers and Special Needs Assistants

Information and communication

The College is committed to respect and sensitivity in the manner in which information about students and families is received, shared, stored and accessed.

In communication we encourage mutual trust, respect, listening, patience, willingness to reach consensus and co-operation.

The staff is committed to supporting students and families who may be experiencing difficulties at particular times.

Review of the policy

As well as on-going informal monitoring of the policy and its implementation, there should be a formal review/evaluation approximately every three years.