

POLICY: DISCIPLINE / BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT

Rationale

Schools have a responsibility to maintain good order, discipline and a safe and secure school environment. Children and young people require guidance and limits to be set on unacceptable behaviour. Ensuring responsible and acceptable behaviour on the part of students is a vital issue for the school, as effective learning and teaching depends on the school providing an environment in which students can learn and have a right to be safe.

Loco Parentis requires the school to provide care as a prudent parent would.

Consistency and fair policies, procedures are necessary to ensure the rights of both individuals and the school are protected in disciplinary situations.

Purposes

1. To encourage and promote an harmonious and effective learning and teaching environment.
2. To ensure students are supervised in a safe manner while at school or on an approved school activity.
3. To build respect for the rights of others.
4. To ensure that appropriate legal requirements are adhered to.
5. To encourage the development of self discipline amongst the student body.

* NOTE: "Discipline" is essentially the system of rules and expectations which control student behaviour. It is also appropriate to include the values of common sense, co-operation, a sense of fair play and respect for one another within the school partnership.

Guidelines

1. The Board of Trustees may make for the school any by law/rule/regulation they think necessary or desirable for the control and management of the school (subject to the charter and the general law of New Zealand). This authority will be usually delegated to the Principal. Staff are required to enforce these requirements.
2. An effective Guidance Network will be in place to support students and their families.

3. The school will follow the appropriate sections of the 1989 Education Act and subsequent Amendments. This Act prohibits the use of corporal punishment by adults with children in school.
4. Disciplinary procedures will be clearly laid down for staff/students in:
 - The Staff Handbook
 - Prospectus
 - Occasional Newsletters
 - Management Policies
5. The school is obliged to take reasonable steps to communicate concerns to families with regard to students causing concern.
6. The school acknowledges that students have rights and responsibilities.
7. Significant changes to the school rules/bylaws/regulations will only take place in conjunction with consultation with the school community via the newsletter etc.
8. Discipline should correct or shape the behaviour of students in a positive direction.
9. Students and teachers are encouraged and supported to work out problems in a manner which respects the dignity of both (restorative practices, principles of Natural Justice).
10. Staff will receive appropriate professional development for managing student behaviour.

REVIEW: This policy will be reviewed according to the Board of Trustees' triennial Programme of self review (JUNE 2022)

DATE CONFIRMED: 25 JUNE 2019