Pastoral Care Policy

Related Policies
CEO Policies: Suspension, Legal Responsibilities, Child Protection, Discipline, Pastoral Care.

Purpose
This policy outlines the school beliefs about Pastoral Care for children and families who attend St Joseph's School

Policy
At St Joseph's School we believe pastoral care is:
- the school community working for one another
- emphasising the holistic development of each person
- integrating learning within an environment of care
- promoting effective teaching and learning
- responding to the needs of people in our school community
- reflecting Gospel values and our Vision and Mission Statements
- reflecting our personal and communal responses to our loving God.

Definitions
Pastoral Care is the attention and care we show for one another in our school community.

Procedures

Families
- At St Joseph's School we welcome families at the beginning of each school year with a Welcome BBQ and Parent Information Session.
- Each class has a parent contact person. One of the responsibilities of this parent is to keep in contact with other parents and support them during times of difficulty. Parent Contacts usually publish a class contact list, welcome new families, arrange days out for families and work with the school and class teacher to make families aware of school functions.
- Parents and Friends meetings are held twice a term. Parents are welcome to come and engage in discussion.
- Teachers at St Joseph's School welcome parental involvement and maintain open and professional contact with families in the school.
- Parents are encouraged to speak with the Principal concerning issues regarding the payment of school fees. Part payment is accepted in cases of hardship.
**Students**
- Students are encouraged to show care and respect for one another. They are encouraged to reflect on values that are put in place each term. These values form the school focus.
- Each class has a buddy class and the classes meet on a regular basis.
- Senior students demonstrate leadership by active participation in the Student Leadership Program.
- Birthdays are celebrated at Morning Gathering by the issuing of birthday stickers.
- Students, through their Religious Education lessons, are asked to reflect on their mission in the world and to discuss ways they can help on another.
- Students contribute to whole-school fund raising.

**Staff**
- The staff has a social committee that plans outings that include the whole staff and families.
- During Sabbath Week each term a social gathering follows a spiritual reflection.
- The leadership team regularly discusses the staff morale and adjusts programs accordingly.

**References**
nil

**Forms**
nil

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**Approved by:** School Board  
**Implementation Date:** 2011  
**Revision Date:** 2016