

## STUDENT BEHAVIOUR POLICY

**Purpose:** To illuminate the framework on which student discipline is managed in the

College.

**Relevant to:** Students; All Members of Staff, Leaders of Year and Leaders of Learning and

Parents and Carers

Responsible Officer(s): Principal,

Assistant Principal - Students and Staff Assistant Principal - Learning and Teaching

Date of Introduction: November 2001

Date of Review: August 2005, February 2013, April 2014, April 2021,

March 2023, April 2025

**Modification History:** 2008, 2009, 2013, 2014, 2017, 2021, 2023 & 2025

**Related Documents:** Child Safeguarding Program

Safe Schools and Bullying Policy

**Pastoral Care Policy** 

Suspension and Termination of Enrolment Policy Student Behaviour Guidelines and Procedures

Student Code of Behaviour

## Legislative and Regulatory documents that support this Policy:

- Disability Discrimination Act 1992
- Disability Standards for Education 2005
- NSW Education Act (1990)
- NESA Registered and Accredited Individual Non-Government Schools (NSW) Manual (September 2023)

## **POLICY**

This policy articulates the philosophical framework upon which the student behaviour procedures are based. Members of Staff must refrain from using any form of action/sanction which does not accord with this policy.

The College Student Behaviour Policy is mindful of:

- respect for the rights of others;
- the reciprocity of rights and responsibilities;
- a concern for the well-being of all members of the community.
- freedom of conscience;
- independence of thought and action;
- an expectation of forgiveness;
- aspirations towards growth in self-discipline;
- a commitment to justice;
- the obligation to search for truth.

By behaviour management we mean our commitment to behaviour leadership based on the first and core principles of rights and responsibilities. Moreover, we exercise discipline and seek to enable behaviour awareness and ownership within those core rights. We seek to do so from a commitment to Gospel values of the dignity of the individual and their right to a safe, respectful, environment and to be treated with dignity and respect in any discipline context.

Rules and sanctions have been formulated within a framework that clearly recognises pastoral care as the distinctive feature from which the ethos of the College emerges. From this orientation it follows that rules and sanctions enable and protect the right to feel safe (psychologically as well physically), the right to fair and respectful treatment, the right to learn without undue distraction or disruption.

The College rules and sanctions are:

- cooperatively formulated, positive in orientation and purposeful;
- just and reasonable;
- conveying a sense of forgiveness;
- encompassing a range of options that are related to the misdemeanour;
- supportable and enforceable;
- contributing to the development of justice in the school;
- fostering responsibility for actions; and
- contributing actively to changing and healing disruptive behaviours and/or breaches of order.

As an authentically pastoral formulation of rules and sanctions, the College Student Behaviour Policy also takes into consideration:

- the age and stage of development of students;
- the capacity of students to understand what is required of them, and reasons for this;
- the particular circumstances of life the student is currently experiencing;
- the need for the adequate supervision of students;
- research findings into the effectiveness of rules and sanctions;
- the implications of various policy options for the physical and psychological welfare of students;
- the implications of various policy options for the legal rights and responsibilities of teachers; and
- the degree and extent to which parents have been informed of student progress.

## STUDENT CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

Trinity Catholic College Lismore is a Catholic Christian community where all students have certain rights and responsibilities which staff and students respect.

Members of Staff also have rights and responsibilities. Cooperation between students and staff in a harmonious and non-threatening environment will make life at Trinity more enjoyable, memorable and productive for all.

Parents/Carers also have rights and responsibilities. Parents/Carers, as the first educators of their children, provide key input as to the kind of person their child becomes. A partnership with the College in the development of responsible young adults means consistency and support for the ethos of the College and respect for family values.

A condition of Enrolment at Trinity is the attendance of the student at all compulsory College activities. Students sign a Code of Behaviour at the point of Enrolment. Students and Parents/Carers acknowledge this requirement, agree to uphold it and understand that failure to attend compulsory College activities may call the student's Enrolment at Trinity into question.

A copy of the Student Code of Behaviour is included in the Trinity Catholic College *General Information Booklet*.