Pastoral Care

A whole school approach

Equality
Dignity
Great Trust in God
As a school steeped in the values of Mary MacKillop and the Sisters of St Joseph, Mary MacKillop College strongly believes in and values the restorative practices philosophy. Such an approach to education and behaviour management provides our young women with opportunities to develop self-discipline and positive behaviours in a caring, supportive environment.

A restorative approach:

- encourages students to appreciate the consequences of their actions for others
- enables students to make amends where their actions have harmed others
- requires students to be accountable for their actions
- encourages respect for all concerned

**Code of Behaviour**

The Code of Behaviour is a response to the Mary MacKillop College’s vision of a safe school environment and is an expression of the pastoral dimension of the College. The Code of Behaviour endeavours to provide a framework upon which high quality interpersonal relations of care and support are experienced by all members of the College community.

Our Mission Statement stresses the importance of self-discipline and self-motivation, and the importance of each individual in the school. This Code of Behaviour supports the College’s discipline philosophy and aims to help students fulfil their responsibility as members of our school community.

**Respect Yourself**

- Be concerned with your own education.
- Conduct yourself in a Christian manner at school and on school outings.
- Be neatly and correctly dressed.
- Care for your health.
Respect Others
- Respect the rights of others.
- Be courteous to staff, and other students.
- Co-operate with teachers and students.
- Speak and act respectfully at all times.
- Welcome visitors to the school.
- Welcome new students to the school.
- Do not cause injury by word or actions to other students in the school.

Respect Property And The Environment
- Be proud of your school environment.
- Be proud of your personal space.
- Keep the school buildings and grounds tidy.
- Care for the furniture and fixtures in the buildings.
- Make your House Group area attractive and pleasant.
- Take care of and use correctly all school equipment.
- Use other students' property only with permission.
- Respect other peoples' belongings.

Create A Learning Atmosphere
- Accept responsibility for your own education. Be prepared to learn.
- Remember that every student has a right to learn.
- Listen without interruption when others (staff or students) are talking to you.
- Seek assistance when you need it.
- Work to the best of your ability in all lessons and complete set homework and assignments.
- Use the diary to organise study.
- Move quickly in an orderly quiet manner from room to room.
- Bring all the necessary books and equipment to every class.
- Be prepared.
Concern For Safety

- Walk around the College buildings, on the stairs, on the verandas.
- Keep to the left when walking up or down stairs.
- Wear a hat and sunscreen when you are in the sun.
- Stay in the College grounds during College hours.
- Report the presence of any strangers to a teacher or the office quickly.

At all times it is expected that behaviour be well-mannered, friendly and co-operative so that a true Christian Community can develop at Mary MacKillop College.
Mary MacKillop College should be a safe, caring and orderly learning environment in which the rights of all students to learn and all teachers to teach are supported.

To achieve this we believe that:

- Application and conduct are key components for success.

- The greater the consistency of approach to behaviour management and discipline among teachers the better they are able to support each other, students and their parents.

- Teachers have the right to teach and student have the right to learn. Teachers should plan and implement a classroom management plan which outlines consequences for inappropriate behaviour as well as reinforcing appropriate behaviour.

- Students should accept responsibility for their own behaviour.

- Good behaviour management is based on rules that are maintained consistently. The classroom management plan is for all students and should operate fairly and predictably for them.

- All behaviour has consequences, which affect future opportunities. Good behaviour management provides students with a choice by making clear the consequences that result from particular behaviours. Students need opportunities to alter inappropriate behaviour. Classroom management plans should be discussed with students at the commencement of each semester/term/year. A “step” warning system should be used, when appropriate, so that students can exercise a choice about continuing inappropriate behaviour before a consequence occurs.
Inappropriate behaviour requires a response which protects the rights of students who want to learn, supports the rights of teachers to teach, and offers the students involved a chance to learn how to make a more appropriate choice in the future. The classroom rules and College values should be consistently referenced so that students are provided with the opportunity to behave appropriately. Teachers should use consequences that are previously understood by students.

The relationship between the student and the teacher is at the heart of learning.

The discipline and challenge of disruptive behaviour is initially the teacher’s responsibility. Other staff will not become involved unless requested or if the College Leadership Team deems it necessary.

Students should not be allowed to engage in behaviour that is not in the best interest of themselves or the best interest of others.

Appropriate behaviour applies equally to out of class times such as lunch, during sport, travelling to and from school and on excursions, camps etc. Lunchtime and after school detention systems are in place to provide consequences in such circumstances.

Teachers have the right to behaviour management support from Heads of House, Heads of Departments and members of the College Leadership team. Support will be provided in developing classroom management plans, room organisation, parent contact and interview support, suspension, exclusion and external referrals and follow up from the Guidance Counsellor.

Our school is committed to:

- Every student having the right to access education free from impediment caused by inappropriate behaviour by others.
- Every student has the opportunity to develop appropriate behaviour which allows them to work harmoniously in the various situations in which they find themselves as members of the College community.
Behaviour education of students is the role of the class teacher and/or Head of House in the first instance. Teachers are supported in the education and management of student behaviour by the Heads of Houses, Deputy Principal – Students and Principal.

Consequences must be consistent and fair while taking into account that each student is an individual with varying needs and familial circumstances.
LEVEL ONE
Minor acts such as those below or isolated instances of uncooperative behaviour to be dealt with by the teacher:
- homework not completed, no equipment for class, late for class, leaving the class early
- eating in classrooms, disrupting class, disrespecting the classroom and learning environment, talking in class etc.

STEP 1
Such behaviour is to be dealt with by teacher in class using behaviour management strategies.

STEP 2
Teacher consequences eg
- reflective work with class teacher, additional work, restorative dialogue/chat, community service, contact with parent or removal of privileges etc.

LEVEL TWO
More serious acts or continued instances of above or behaviour such as:
- discourtesy or insolence, verbal abuse, teasing including racist taunts, persistent talking, excessive noise and disruption to class, continually fails to complete homework, swearing etc.

STEP 1
Such behaviour is to be referred to, and dealt with by, Head of House and/or HoD (if related to academic behaviour or class progress).

STEP 2
Students will be required to own their actions and accept consequences as per the College's restorative process (which may include a conference with the classroom teacher).

STEP 3
If the situation warrants parents will be invited to participate in a conference with the student and/or teacher and a suitable consequence will be agreed upon by all involved.

LEVEL THREE
Serious acts such as:

BEHAVIOUR - hitting; punching; calling hurtful, abusive or offensive names; threatening behaviour; abusive or obscene language; excluding others; rude gestures; cyber bullying etc

ACADEMIC - continuing to maintain an attitude of non-compliance with curriculum demands and appropriate academic behaviour; plaguarism etc

STEP 1
Such behaviour is to be referred to the Head of House and/or HoD who will take a statement.

STEP 2
Head o and/or HoD will report the situation to the Deputy - Students/Studies or APRE.

STEP 3
Internal withdrawal or consequences as listed in the appropriate policy eg Bullying or as deemed appropriate by Principal. This may include a conference with parents and Principal or other action supportive of the College's restorative processes.