



For the Whole of Their Life

St. Philip's Christian College Gosford

5.1.8 Pastoral Care 2019

Document Information	
Author/Supervisor	ELT
Compliance	
Board of Studies	Registered and Accredited Individual Non-Government Schools (NSW) Manual Section 3.6.2 (Student Welfare) Section 3.10.1 (Reporting on changes made to policies)
Legislative Requirements	See Children and Young Persons (Care and Protections Act 1998) Sect 23 http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/nsw/consol_act/caypapa1998442/ The Ombudsman Amendment (Child Protection and Community) Act 1998 http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/sessionalview/sessional/act/1998-148.pdf CCH School Principals' Legal Guide www.cch.com.au Mandatory Reporting http://www.community.nsw.gov.au/welcome_to_docs_website.html?s=2075946183 NSW Online Mandatory Reporting Guide http://sdm.community.nsw.gov.au/mrg/screen/DoCS/en-GB/summary?user=guest
Other Policy Relationships	SPCEF Ltd Code of Conduct Staff Oct 2013.docx SPCEF Ltd Child Protection Allegations against Staff Policy FINAL.docx SPCEF LTD Child Protection Policy 2014 FINAL.docx Working with children Check Procedures 2015 Gosford.docx
Document Location	
Key Dates:	
Date of Issue/last revision	June 2019
Date submitted to CLT	
Date Ratified by CLT	
Review Date	March 2019
Policy Review	This policy will be reviewed every 3 years, or as needed in line with legislative changes and the requirements of the Association of Independent Schools
Applies to	St. Philip's Christian College, Gosford K-12

The College's policies, which are made from time to time, are made pursuant to the requirements set out in section 47 of the Education Act and of the Board of Studies for registration of the school. Any policy developed corporately by SPCEF Ltd. overrides any local policy developed by SPCC Gosford.

1. General Statement

The NSW Board of Studies **Registered and Accredited Individual Non-Government Schools (NSW) Manual** requires that a school must have in place policies and procedures to ensure that it provides a 'safe and supportive' environment for all students and staff. Student pastoral care and welfare policies are strategic components of this environment. In addition, government compliance mandates that the College meets the requirements of the **Australian Student Well-being Framework 2017**.

As a Christian College we believe that in Jesus Christ we see God's image and likeness in its human expression. Jesus' values and teachings show all people 'the way, the truth and the life' (*John 14:6*). In accordance with this belief, the values that are promoted within our understanding and practice of pastoral care include love, respect, compassion, tolerance, forgiveness, repentance, reconciliation and justice.

Pastoral care of students should enhance student wellbeing of a personal, social, physical, emotional, mental and spiritual nature. Key elements of student wellbeing are positive self-regard, respect for others, positive relationships, responsible behaviours and personal resilience.

2. Aim

St Philip's Christian College pastoral care aims to be proactive, intuitive and strategic in its programs. Reaction is suitable and required, however our primary aim is to be pre-emptive, and to:

*"Train a child in the way he should go,
and when he is old he will not turn from it."
Prov 22:6*

The College aims to:

- 1) Maintain and strengthen a K-12 perspective in all areas of Pastoral Care
- 2) Meet the requirements of the Australian Student Well-being Framework 2017
- 3) Promote and strengthen the 'whole child' approach – mind, body, spirit
- 4) Provide students with a sense of connection, significance, affirmation as well as a feeling of 'being known' by at least one 'significant adult'.
- 5) Grow a vision for the individual student and provide opportunities for personal development.
- 6) Ensure, to the best of our ability, that all people are safe and secure within the College – physically, psychologically and spiritually.
- 7) Care for the whole community pastorally, providing systems for this to occur.
- 8) Communicate effectively with all stakeholders in pastoral care issues
- 9) Provide effective transition procedure between year levels and sub-schools including the storage and transference of relevant material
- 10) Provide effective staff welfare policies and procedures
- 11) Provide staff with effective training to enable them to care "pastorally" and effectively
- 12) Ensure that pastoral care factors are included in the interview process for new staff (and also at enrolment for new students/families)

3. Principles

1. Foundational to the nature of pastoral care in our College is the belief that each person is created in the image and likeness of God (*Genesis 1:27*), with the inherent dignity that this implies.
2. Respectful and cooperative school-family relationships provide an effective channel of pastoral care for students. The College and families share responsibility for developing and maintaining such relationships of trust, characterised by respect for the goodwill of the other and a willingness to engage collaboratively.
3. Student wellbeing is best achieved within an environment that is safe, supportive, inclusive and empowering, where diversity is respected and valued, where human rights and the common good are honoured, where inter-relationships are positive, where students experience connectedness and engagement, and where those experiencing difficulty or special need receive particular care and support.
4. Enhanced student wellbeing contributes significantly to improved student learning outcomes. Effective pastoral care is recognised as promoting the achievement of learning outcomes.
5. An effective whole school approach to pastoral care requires age-appropriate behavioural education and skilling of students, and pastorally driven management of student behaviour through processes focused on both individual and community wellbeing, and on ensuring a just and reasonable balance of individual and community rights, needs and responsibilities.
6. Effective school-community partnerships offer opportunities for networks of pastoral care for students.

4. Welfare pastoral care procedure.

