



For the Whole of Their Life

**St Philip's Christian College  
Gosford**

**Student Commendation Policy  
2015**

**Policy Document Information**

Author/Supervisor	B.Yap
Compliance	
Board of Studies	Registered and Accredited Individual Non-Government Schools (NSW) Manual Registered and Accredited Individual Non-government Schools (NSW) Manual Section 3.6.1 (Child Protection) Section 3.6.2 (Student Welfare) Section 3.6 (Safe and Supportive Environment) Section 3.7.1 (Discipline) Section 3.8 (Attendance) Section 3.10.1 (Reporting on changes made to policies)
Legislative Requirements	CCH School Principals' Legal Guide <a href="http://www.cch.com.au">www.cch.com.au</a>
Other Policy Relationships	Student Commendation Guidelines and Procedures 2015 WHS Policy Student Leadership Policy 2015 Student Discipline Policy 2015 Student Discipline Guidelines and Procedures document 2015
Key Dates	
Review Date	March 2017
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

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.



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**1. General Statement**

At St Philip's Christian College we acknowledge the close relationship between student wellbeing, pastoral care, classroom climate and teaching and learning practice. Managing Student Behaviour therefore needs to be seen and developed within this holistic perspective.

It is to be noted that some school-based activities such as Managing Student Behaviour will be subject to a variety of 'policy areas'. It is also noted that each policy is not mutually exclusive, that is, there are implicit and explicit interrelationships between many policies. (eg. Student Commendation Guideline and Procedures, Discipline Policy, Anti-bullying Policy, Supervision Policy, etc)

**Encouraging Positive Student Behaviour (Commendation)**

Our goal is that each student will be given opportunities to reach their God given potential in a supportive and encouraging environment where their strengths and achievements have been praised and acknowledged. Encouraging positive student behaviour is integral to the good management of students and an important part of providing a conducive learning environment for all (students, staff, parents and visitors). The goal of Managing Student Behaviour is to work towards the achievement of the College's core values of Christ First, Serve One Another, Strive For Excellence, Do What is Right and Build Community. Students need to feel safe, secure and happy whilst at school so they can learn. Rewarding positive behaviour encourages and provides an incentive for the student to repeat the desired behaviours and encourages positive self image. It also provides an example for others as to what the expected and desirable standards of behaviour are. At St Philip's Christian College, we praise and encourage commendable behaviour and attitudes by rewarding students through a variety of external means with the goal that each student will progress from extrinsic to intrinsic motivation. Encouragement can range from praise to special privileges and awards.

This policy is to be implemented in conjunction with the College's Student Commendation Guidelines and Procedures, Student Discipline Policy, Student Discipline Guidelines and Procedures documents.

**2 Aim**

The aim of Student Commendation Policy 2015 is to create and maintain a safe, secure, productive and happy learning environment for the spiritual, emotional, academic, social and physical development of all the students in our care.

### **3. Objectives - Policy statement**

**3.1 Christian Ethos:** Our approach to the Student Commendation Policy is underpinned by Biblical truth and motivated by Christian love. In this context, 1 Corinthians 13 provides a solid basis for relationships at St Philip's Christian College. Jesus Christ is our definitive behavioural model.

### **3.2 Promoting a safe, supportive and inclusive environment:**

- An holistic approach
- A whole school responsibility
- Reflects the identified needs of the community
- Implementation of clearly-defined expected standards of behaviour
- Promotes positive student behaviour, including specific strategies to maintain a climate of respect
- Recognises and reinforces student achievement

### **3.3 Self Discipline**

The ideal in managing student behaviour is that each individual student, motivated by a desire to please God, will take responsibility for their own behaviour, maintaining a self-disciplined approach in order to demonstrate excellence of both attitude and actions.

### **3.4 Respect**

As members of the St Philip's Community we should all show respect to each other. Managing student behaviour should recognise the age and maturity of the person and praise and encouragement should always be genuine.

### **3.5 Praise**

Our goal is that students do not rely on materialistic rewards as their only source of motivation, but rather that words of praise and encouragement inspire them to greater levels of achievement and behaviour. In this process, the individual should feel affirmed for who they are, a child of God. Because every child is "fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psalm 139:14), regardless of academic ability, they will be recognised for their own progress and efforts.

## **4. Audience and Applicability**

The College community including Executive Staff, Teaching and Non-teaching staff, Students, Parent/Carers.

## **5. Context**

**5.1** At St Philip's Christian College, we strive to provide quality learning environments which are inclusive, safe, secure, supportive and encouraging.

**5.2** All students and staff have the right to be treated fairly and with respect in an environment which is encouraging and positive.

## **6. Responsibilities and delegations**

### **6.1 Principal**

- The Principal is accountable to the Executive Principal and the Board of Governors for ensuring a safe, secure and harmonious work environment for students and staff.
- The Principal, in conjunction with the College Leadership Team is responsible for the development, implementation and monitoring of the Student Commendation Policy 2015.
- The Principal is responsible for ensuring that the College's policy is evaluated and reviewed by the school community at least every three years.

- The Principal will endeavour to engage in collaboration in the development of the policy and that staff are provided with training and development opportunities in positive behaviour management
- The Principal will make available a copy of the Student Commendation Policy 2015 to the College community.
- The Principal will inform Parents and students of changes to Commendation system.

## **6.2 Deputy Principal / Heads of Schools**

- Deputy Principal / Heads of Schools are expected to participate in the development of the Student Commendation Policy 2015 and Student Commendation Guidelines and Procedures document 2015 in conjunction with Pastoral Care Executive and to oversee its effective implementation within their sub-school.
- Maintain appropriate records relating to Commendation Awards.

## **6.3 Pastoral Care Executive**

- Pastoral Care Executive are expected to participate in the development of the Student Commendation Policy 2015 and Student Commendation Guidelines and Procedures document 2015 in conjunction with Heads of Schools and to ensure effective implementation across each cohort of responsibility.
- Maintain appropriate records relating to Commendation Awards in MS/SS. In JS this is done by the Pastoral care Teacher.
- Organise the printing and distribution of award certificates in MS/SS. In JS this is done by the Pastoral care Teacher.

## **6.4 Teachers**

- Teachers are able to contribute to the development of the Student Commendation Policy 2015 and are expected to support its effective implementation within the classroom and College grounds.
- Maintain accurate records for the Commendation Award system.

## **6.5 Parent/Carers**

- Parent/carers are expected to support the College in the implementation of the Student Commendation Policy 2015 and Student Commendation Guidelines and Procedures document 2015.
- Parent/Carers are to praise and acknowledge student achievements and accomplishments.

## **6.6 Students**

- Strive to give their best and follow the college rules and code of conduct.
- Encourage, praise and support other students' achievement and efforts.

## **7. Monitoring, evaluation and reporting requirements**

This policy in line with Student Commendation Guidelines and Procedures 2015 will be evaluated and reviewed every three years or as needed in line with legislative changes.

## **8. Document details and history**

Modified from Discipline and Commendation Policy 2000 (see H:\College Documents\Policies and Procedures\Administration\Discipline Policy\Archive)

## **Additional Materials**

Privacy Policy  
WHS Policy

Student Behaviour Discipline Policy 2015  
Student Leadership Policy 2015

Updated March 2015 B.Yap