



## Good Counsel Parish Schools Board POLICY DOCUMENT

<b>Good Counsel Parish Schools Board</b> (incorporating Good Counsel Primary School, Good Counsel College and St. Rita's Primary School)	
<b>Behaviour Management Policy</b>	
<b>Policy Domain:</b> Managing Relationships	Adopted: 14 October 2014 To be reviewed: 12 months
<b>STATEMENT</b> Good Counsel Schools have a statutory obligation to maintain a safe physical and emotional environment, and a responsibility to consult with the community when that will benefit student learning outcomes, and the effective operation of the school.  Good Counsel Schools will develop and maintain rigorous and effective behaviour management practices which aim to maximise the benefits of student learning.  These practices will aim, not only to maintain a safe school environment, but also to address the need of students to accept personal responsibility for their actions.	
<b>CONTEXT</b> The development of a behaviour management policy within schools and colleges will reflect a care and respect for the learning needs of students and reflect the highest standard of accountability.  The policy also takes into account the diversity of cultural differences and family background with sensitivities to human right and relationships.  <i>"Unless you change and become like little children you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven." (Matthew 18.3) Behaviour management is about change, Jesus teaches for us in our search for boundaries, to become childlike.</i>	

**RATIONALE**

The policy will promote care and respect both for students and staff by providing a safe and productive learning environment, whilst acknowledging age, experience and differing degrees of personal responsibility that can be expected from individuals.

**PROCEDURES**

The Good Counsel Parish schools will develop behaviour management procedures respective to the context of a parish primary school and a parish secondary college in accordance with this policy and following the guidelines and procedures set out by the Catholic Education Diocese of Cairns for this area.

For specific Behaviour Management Procedures please refer to Primary and Secondary School Procedures and the Catholic Education Website.

**DEFINITIONS****Serious Offence:-**

Catholic Education in the Diocese of Cairns defines a serious offence as an activity or behaviour which:

- seriously undermines the ethos of the Catholic school; or
- consistently and deliberately fails to comply with any lawful order of a Principal or teacher; or
- is offensive or dangerous to the physical or emotional health of any staff member, visitor or any student; or
- consistently and deliberately interferes with the educational opportunities and endeavours of other students.

Some serious offences are by their nature criminal offences, and schools are obliged to observe legal requirements.

**Detention:-**

A 'detention' is any relatively short period when a student is:

- detained at school, or in a particular class, in student's 'non-class' time (recess, lunchtime, recreation time, after school); or
- excluded from normal classes, or from a particular class or activity, pending negotiated conditions for re-entry (withdrawal/time-out).

This is an appropriate level of response for much irresponsible classroom behaviour. It signals to a student that irresponsible behaviour, which breaks class rules or school rules, will be met with an immediate consequence.

**Suspension:-**

Suspension is the temporary, full-time or part-time withdrawal of a student's right to attend classes/school for a period of discernment and investigation. Suspension may be applied either within school or external to the school.

Any single suspension cannot exceed ten school days without being referred to the Director of Catholic Education. Indefinite suspension or 'rolling suspension', where the student is continually re-suspended for the maximum period, is not ethical or proper. By mutually agreeable arrangements, a student's enrolment may be suspended whilst the student attends an alternative education program.

**Exclusion:-**

Exclusion is the full-time withdrawal of a student's right to attend a particular school, on the authority of the Director of Catholic Education. Exclusion from one school does not prohibit the enrolment of the student in another Catholic school in the Diocese of Cairns unless the student has been specifically prohibited by the Director of Catholic Education from attending any Catholic school in the Diocese of Cairns. Exclusions may be appealed.

**Cancellation of Enrolment:-**

Cancellation of enrolment is the full-time withdrawal of a student's right to attend a particular school, on the authority of the principal. Cancellation of enrolment from one school does not prohibit the enrolment of the student in another school in the Diocese of Cairns. Cancellation of enrolment may be appealed.

**RELATED DOCUMENTS**

- Refer to Catholic Education Services Website for matters pertaining to current Student Protection Legislation and all other related documents as set out by Catholic Education Services.
- Queensland Criminal Code.
- All Other related documents as outlined by Catholic Education Services Cairns.