Policy Statement

Our Mission is to work actively as a Catholic, Christian, inclusive learning community.

Our Context: Clairvaux MacKillop College is a co-educational Catholic Secondary College that seeks to develop a unique identity of faith, hope and love, based on the vision and person of Jesus Christ.

There are 5 College Policy Documents, (1) Education; (2) Resourcing the College; (3) Faith Development; (4) Pastoral Matters; (5) Community Relationships.

Each policy is anchored in our Mission and each is supported by a range of procedures and processes that are documented and reviewed so that they remain relevant.

"Jesus welcomed the crowds, spoke to them about the Kingdom of God, and healed those who needed it."

Luke 9:11
**Education Policy**
The Education Policy at Clairvaux MacKillop College is to maintain a Catholic Christian Learning Community where appropriately qualified teachers engage with students to foster self-directed learning, and the acquisition of knowledge, attitudes and skills that will assist them to contribute positively to society. Staff work to equip today’s youth with Christian values to face the challenges of an ever-changing world.

**Purpose**
This policy on education at Clairvaux MacKillop College, together with associated principles, guidelines and procedures, informs decision-making and action, and describes our educational accountabilities.

**Rationale**
Clairvaux MacKillop College, as a contemporary Catholic Learning Community, recognises the need for students to be ‘Lifelong Learners’. The provision of a varied curriculum that is both relevant and appropriate provides all students with the opportunity to experience successful learning within a safe and supportive environment.

**Teaching and Learning**
We acknowledge that education involves students, teachers and administrators working together as a learning community. As members of this learning community, we strive to reflect upon our learning by continuously reassessing and seeking to improve upon our practices in the pursuit of teaching excellence for the benefit of our students.

Incorporating a Learning Framework that is founded on explicit teaching practices and the thinking skills model to guide teaching and learning, we seek to be innovative and collaborative, and offer a curriculum that aims to cater for the needs, interests and abilities of our students and the Community.

At Clairvaux MacKillop College there is an understanding by teachers that learning is about transformation, and transformation is the basis of enhanced learner performance. Effective learning takes the learner on a journey into new and unfamiliar terrains. However, for this learning to make a difference in the life of students they need to be encouraged to venture in to the unfamiliar; the area of new knowledge and to feel confident that they have the skills to turn this new knowledge into something useful and relevant to them and their communities.

**Reporting and Accountability**
At Clairvaux MacKillop College we provide timely and appropriate feedback to the community, recognising successes and achievements in education. We reflect on the relevant data to inform future directions in curriculum. Guiding us are the educational requirements of the various governing bodies, such as ACARA, QCAA, BCE, CRICOS and others.

**Inclusive Practice and Participation**
Clairvaux MacKillop College is a safe and supportive community that welcomes all who share its values, while appreciating what each person has to offer. We acknowledge that each student has unique academic, spiritual, social, physical and emotional needs. Cultural diversity is acknowledged and mutual respect is practised to create a rich and dynamic learning community where everyone has a valuable contribution to make. Together as students, teachers and community, we work towards a common goal, that is, to enable each student to experience success.

**Futures perspective**
We encourage students to embrace learning in all its forms, both within the classroom and beyond. In order to be full participants in the society of the future, students will need to be life-long learners. Our curriculum must therefore be sensitive to this need, and acknowledge the diverse pathways that our students may follow. The College must teach students the skills and the habits of mind that will enable them to adapt to a changing, complex world progressing towards a sustainable future. The College provides educational opportunities in flexible learning modes developed to responsibly meet changing needs.

**Policy Review**
This policy will be reviewed annually or as:

- New developments/research occurs
- Legislation updates occurs
- Brisbane Catholic Education requirements change

By this process, Clairvaux MacKillop College can ensure the best practice for its students, staff and parents.

**Authorisation**
The Clairvaux MacKillop College Pastoral Board, endorses this policy which has been determined in consultation with staff and parents. This revised policy takes effect as of July 2017 and is authorised by the Clairvaux MacKillop College Principal.

*First published March 2009
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