Pastoral Matters

Clairvaux MacKillop College

Mission Statement

Our Mission is to work actively as a Christian 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

Associated College Documents – Procedures, Processes

- Clairvaux MacKillop College Mission Statement
- Positions of Added Responsibility Structures
- Roles and Responsibilities – Teachers
- Clairvaux MacKillop College Code of Conduct
- Staff Code of Conduct 2009
- Student Behaviour Support Plan
  Brisbance Catholic Education September 2008
- Student Behaviour Support Plan
  Clairvaux MacKillop College 2009
- Brisbane Catholic Education
  Student Protection May 2005
- Brisbane Catholic Education
  Student Protection 2008 – Mandatory.
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
  Catholic Education May 2006
- Students with Disabilities Feb 2007
- Pastoral Forum
- Counselling
- Campus Ministry
- Learning Support
- English as a Second Language (ESL)
- ‘Students at Risk’ Meetings
- Professional Development and Induction Programs
- New Staff Induction
- Student Leadership roles
- Parent-Student-Teacher (PST) Interviews
- Student Support meeting
Pastoral Matters

The policy on Pastoral Matters guides the College in providing a pastorally caring, and thriving co-educational environment that welcomes, accepts and celebrates the uniqueness and dignity of the human person within the context of a Christian community.

Purpose

Clairvaux MacKillop College is entrusted with the responsibility for providing a loving, supportive, caring and secure learning environment for all students and staff. This policy acknowledges the role of the College in fostering the growth and development of its members in a community that provides a strong sense of wellbeing, belonging and security; where students and staff are given every opportunity to affirm in their dignity and worth, and assisted to grow to the fullness of their potential. The College seeks to recognise and embrace the needs, giftedness and human dignity of each individual.

Rationale

Clairvaux MacKillop College recognises that a pastoral approach is integral to all facets of College community life. The climate of Pastoral Care is promoted in our College’s vision and Mission Statement, and effected in policies, procedures, programs, teaching and learning curriculum, student activities, student/staff support and wellbeing services, behaviour management processes, family engagement, community partnerships, and College climate and ethos.

Pastoral Care

We understand that for the majority of students, family life and school are formative influences in their lives. Staff and parents also need to be nurtured in their roles as care-givers. We are therefore committed to:

- Ensuring that the roles and responsibilities of all members of the school community are explicit and disseminated in promoting a safe and supportive environment.
- Encouraging students towards self discipline and responsible behaviour through the Responsible Thinking Process to nurture understandings of personal choice, commitment, wellbeing and safety.
- Supporting new and beginning teachers through Induction programs, practices and peer support, to enhance their understanding and implementation of Pastoral Care.
- Regularly monitoring new and ‘at risk’ students to provide opportunities for development, support and growth. In consultation with parents or caregivers, this may include the identification of support links within and beyond the school community.
- Providing proactive patterns of care that are characterised by a sense of love, kindness, understanding and celebration of living;
- Recognising and nurturing leadership among students and staff as an integral element that underpins the creation of a safe and supportive school environment.

Reporting and Accountability

The College embraces a collaborative and holistic ‘wrap-around’ approach to the care of students which involves team cooperation, enhances understanding of individual needs and employs a monitoring and evaluation process. Processes are reviewed regularly and within current mandatory guidelines. Data collection is ongoing and communication among the key pastoral team members occurs regularly. Open communication with parents, staff and students, the monitoring of behaviour and incidents affecting student care, and regular Pastoral meetings highlight and promote pastoral needs.

Inclusive Practice and Participation

The College structures Pastoral Care groups to encourage positive personal interactions.

Futures perspective

With the rapid and complex social and economic changes resulting in uncertainty, insecurity and stress on families, Clairvaux MacKillop College has a strong commitment to responsive pastoral care and support. The ongoing provision of resources and staff professional development ensures continued service to all those of our community.

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. The policy takes effect as of March 2009 and is authorised by the Clairvaux MacKillop College Principal.