

St Francis will provide a child safe environment where all children have the right to be treated with respect and will be protected from harm.

Student Discipline Policy

Source of Obligation

The Victorian Registration Standards (s 4.3.1(6)) (CECV Guidelines ref 4.5) require that our policies relating to the discipline of students are based on principles of procedural fairness and must not permit corporal punishment.

Discipline Policy

Every student has the right to a learning environment free from bullying and intimidation and to feel safe and happy at school. They also have the right to be treated fairly and with dignity.

Discipline is necessary to ensure the safety and welfare of all our students, teachers and staff and to provide a conducive learning environment.

This Student Discipline Policy sets the framework through which St Francis Primary School manages student discipline.

This Student Discipline Policy is communicated to staff, students, parents and guardians and the College community:

- In the staff policy portal
- On the St Francis Primary School website.

Prohibition of Corporal Punishment

It is our policy that corporal punishment is prohibited.

The use of any corporal punishment by a staff member is strictly prohibited. Any staff member who breaches this rule will be subject to disciplinary proceedings which may include dismissal.

Behaviour Management

St Francis Primary School seeks to develop a culture of positive discipline by setting clear expectations of students and encouraging positive behaviour. Strategies for developing this culture include:

- Clearly setting expectations with respect to student behaviour
- Establishing specific teaching and learning programs
- Communicating expectations with the wider College community
- Acknowledging positive behaviours in a range of ways from informal verbal acknowledgement through to structured merit awards
- Maintaining records with respect to student behaviour.

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St Francis Primary School has developed a policy which is consistent with the CEM Policy Pastoral Care of Students which encompasses the above strategies.

Procedural Fairness

Students have a right to procedural fairness in dealings that involve their interests. This includes disciplinary decisions.

The principles of procedural fairness include the right to:

- Know what the rules are, and what behaviour is expected of students
- Have decisions determined by a reasonable and unbiased person
- Know the allegations that have been made, and to respond to them
- Be heard before a decision is made
- To have a decision reviewed (but not so as to delay an immediate punishment).

St Francis Primary School is committed to ensuring procedural fairness when disciplining a student.

The Rules and the Expected Standard of Behaviour

Students are expected to abide by the rules of the School, and the directions of teachers and staff.

Examples of written rules that students are expected to follow are dealt with in:

Student Behaviour

- Alcohol (Student Use Of)
- Assault (Student Against Student)
- Bullying Prevention & Intervention
- Cyber Safety
- Drugs - Illicit (Student Use Of)
- Information & Communication Technology
- Mobile Phones (Student Use Of)
- Truancy
- Student Code of Conduct
- College Rules
- Uniform Policy



St Francis Primary School Nathalia

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Consequences

There are a range of consequences that students will face if they breach College rules, or are disobedient. These include:

- Warnings or reprimands (verbal and written)
- Time outs
- Clean up duties
- Cancellation of privileges
- Withdrawal from School activities
- Lunch time detentions
- Suspension
- Expulsion
- Exclusion.

A decision to suspend or expel a student may only be made by the Deputy Principal or the Principal.

Procedures for Suspension, Expulsion and Exclusion

St Francis Primary School has developed specific procedures that must be followed when considering the suspension or expulsion of a student. Refer to our Suspension and Expulsion Policy.

Individual Behaviour Management Plan

Individual behaviour management plans may be made in certain circumstances.

Behaviour Management Plans will be negotiated between School staff, students and parents/guardians, and will consider the student's:

- Age
- Developmental needs
- Behavioural context.

Desired behaviour/goals of the student will be clearly described. The plan will outline changes required to the learning environment to support the student to modify their behaviour.

The School will refer the student to other support available and review, assess, change and modify the plan as needed.



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Implementation

This Policy is implemented by:
staff training and professional development opportunities in behaviour management
communicating this policy to the School community
monitoring the effectiveness of the policy reviewing and evaluating the policy annually.

This Policy and other behaviour management policies and procedures including steps for managing suspensions and expulsions are communicated to staff, students, guardians, parents and the School community through:

- The Parent Portal
- The St Francis Primary School website
- Staff Handbook
- Student Handbook
- Announcements in the weekly newsletter

School discipline relates to the actions taken by a teacher or the school organization towards a student (or group of students) when the student's behaviour disrupts the ongoing educational activity or breaks a rule created by the teacher or the school system. Discipline can guide the children's behaviour or set limits to help them learn to take care of themselves, other people and the world around them.

St Francis Primary School has set up a series of compliance tasks in CompliSpace Assurance, to ensure that key obligations under the Victorian Registration Standards and CECV Guidelines are managed effectively.

Related Policies

Suspension and Expulsion Policy
School Rules
Bullying Prevention & Intervention
Drugs - Illicit (Student Use Of)
Uniform Policy