

# St. Mary of the Angels Catholic School Guyra

## TOPIC

Code of Behaviour and Procedures Policy

## RATIONALE

At St Mary of the Angels School, Guyra all students and adults have a right to feel respected, cared for, and protected from rough, dangerous, abusive and/or sexually suggestive behaviour.

There will be a discipline process that is fair, firm and consistent. The guidelines will be clearly articulated, so that all involved are aware of the process.

The aim of the policy is to promote respect for the rights of others through acceptable behaviour so that pupils, staff and the whole school community should be able to:

1. participate in all aspects of school life without fear or threat of physical or verbal abuse or disruption;
2. develop care and concern for individual differences, a sense of personal worth and cultural identity;
3. show respect for property, feelings and privacy;
4. accept responsibility for one's own actions.

- When implementing our Code of Behaviour and Procedures Policy, the school will be guided by the Policies from the Bishop's Commission for Catholic Schools e.g:

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- **Policy on Suspension, Expulsion or Exclusion of students in Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Armidale**
- **Policy on Sexual Harassment**
- **Management of Drug Related Issues**

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## **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

1. The rights of the individual, respect for the individual and individual responsibility are to be upheld.
2. Any interaction between adults and students must be appropriate at all times.
3. All adults are responsible for a Duty of Care to the students.
4. At St Mary of the Angels School Guyra there will be **NO** Corporal punishment.

We will have respect for - Every person, everyone's belongings, school Property.

We will be responsible for: - Our own actions, the safety of others and the equipment we use.

We will recognise the rights of: - Individuals, Groups, Communities (School, Parish, and Wider Community).

These rules are designed to promote a learning environment and the practice of Christian values.

## **PROCEDURES**

The needs of students will always be given consideration when implementing the discipline process:

1. Verbally reprimand, clearly outlining the consequences.
2. Time Out – which may involve – an appropriate consequence:
  - Sending to another classroom if behaviour continues.
3. Principal notified and appropriate actions decided upon which may involve:
  - ❖ Guardians/Parents notified
  - ❖ Removal of privileges
  - ❖ Individual behaviour modification program developed.
4. Serious situations must be reported to the Principal. After a thorough investigation of the incident/s and circumstances and in consultation with the Parish Priest and the CSO the Principal may decide to:

Follow steps 4.1 or 4.2 and/or 4.3

4.1 Suspend the offender in accordance with the Bishop's Commission Policy "The Suspension, Expulsion or Exclusion of Students in Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Armidale" - ensuring that correct procedures as outlined in SOC 08:08 are followed.

- **As per Diocesan Policy the Director will be informed in writing of all suspensions.**

4.2 Expel the offender in accordance with the Bishop's Commission Policy "The Suspension, Expulsion or Exclusion of Students in Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Armidale" - ensuring that correct procedures as outlined in SOC 08:08 are followed.

- **As per Diocesan Policy no student is to be expelled from school except by the authority of the Director, who must also inform the Bishop.**

4.3 If it is deemed that the behaviour is of a sexual nature then the Diocesan Sexual Harassment Policy and Procedures will be followed.

## **OUTCOMES**

1. St. Mary of the Angels School Guyra will be seen as a school that;
  - Upholds Christian values.
  - Sees child protection as a top priority.
  - Considers the needs of all students.
  - Respects the rights of all adults and students
  - Encourages students to respect/value themselves, others and authority.
  - Is free of sexual harassment.

# St. Mary of the Angels Catholic School Guyra

## Code of Behaviour

Inappropriate behaviour that may lead to suspension and/or expulsion:

- **Physical Abuse**  
Striking a student or adult in a premeditated attack.
- **Verbal Abuse**  
Swearing or verbal abuse of a student or adult, by a student or adult.
- **Inconsiderate Behaviour**  
Rude gestures, foul language, intimidating behaviour, bullying.
- **Repeated Disobedience/Rudeness**  
Lying to, being rude to, disobeying and back chatting.
- **Vandalism, Theft**  
Deliberate vandalism or theft of an adult or student's property.
- **Dangerous Behaviour**  
Tackling, wrestling, swinging, striking of adults or students in the classroom/playground.
- **Inappropriate Sexual Behaviour**  
All necessary processes to be followed in the area of Child Protection.
- **Unauthorised Behaviour** (Whilst Supervised or Unsupervised)  
Possession or use of cigarettes, alcohol or any illegal substance at school or on the way to/from school. Viewing and or the distribution of pornographic or inappropriate material.
- **Weapons or objects used as weapons**  
Knives, firearms, sling shots or other dangerous objects brought to school and used at school or whilst travelling to/from school.