



# School Engagement Policy

Policy Code: PW - SEP  
To be Reviewed: 2021  
Ratified: 2018

## **Identity Statement**

To provide a school community that draws on the traditions of the Brigidine Order, that celebrates life, reaches out to others and actively cares for our world.

## **Vision Statements**

*St Patrick's Primary School strives to:*

- Guide and support students on their faith journey through experiences of the Catholic tradition, building a strong sense of belonging, responsibility and wonder within our school, church and global communities.
- Develop an environment that builds on student resilience, self - respect, confidence and empathy – in partnership with families.
- Foster a learning environment that provides a holistic education that nurtures all learners in order for them to realise their full potential.
- Model and foster a safe and supportive environment for students and their families within the school community.
- Provide learning and teaching experiences that promote decision making.
- Conserve God's creation and recognise the traditional owners of the land.

## **Graduate Outcomes**

*We endeavour to create graduates who will:*

- Have a dynamic faith
- Be committed to social justice
- Be environmentally aware
- Develop and sustain loving relationships
- Be life-long learners
- Realise their potential
- Be creative problem-solvers
- Be resilient, confident and independent
- Be respectful
- Have courage and integrity
- Be self-aware
- Enjoy their experiences

## **School Profile Statement**

St. Patrick's School is a Catholic Primary School and is an integral part of the St. Patrick's Wangaratta Parish. Since the school began, we have catered for the learning needs of primary school aged children from our surrounding community. St Patrick's provides a caring school environment that has developed over time, reflecting changes in society and educational practices.

St. Patrick's is dedicated to ensuring children receive a sound faith and solid academic education. At this school, we embrace the tradition, and look to the future.

St. Patrick's is always conscious of home/school relationships - Parental Engagement. We encourage families to be active participants in our school life and recognise the establishment of strong links, as a positive influence in student success. Similarly too, we endorse the building of healthy relationships within the Parish and the wider community

St. Patrick's provides a caring and nurturing school atmosphere. With our class structures based on current needs, students are provided with stimulating and challenging experiences whilst learning to work cooperatively with each other. Reading, writing, mathematics and problem solving are a strong focus of the school's academic program with access to state of the art technology to maximise student opportunities for learning.

## **Whole School Prevention Statement**

Whole-school approaches offer the most effective response in working with emotional, social, physical and spiritual issues in a school community. The St. Patrick's Primary School whole-school approach involves ethos, relationships,



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communication, management, physical environment, learning strategies, curriculum, support procedures and responses, relationships with parents and the surrounding community.

Our whole-school approach focuses on all programs, procedures and decisions being made with the context of the impact on the whole school in mind. St. Patrick's Primary School aims to ensure that the Pastoral Wellbeing practices are understood, agreed upon, embedded, coherent, congruent and coordinated across the school.

## **Rights & Responsibilities**

At St. Patrick's Primary School we have three school rules:

- Respect for self;
- Respect for others; &
- Respect for the environment

The school systems and practices ensure that relationships at Patrick's are respectful, collaborative and inclusive. The school culture reflects and values the connections between the school, students, staff, parents and carers. The school environment is welcoming and friendly. The school promotes and maintains high levels of student attendance and participation.

## **Parental Engagement**

St Patrick's has embarked on a journey of Parental Engagement with its school community. This requires the school to work in collaboration with its parents for the improvement of parents, students and staff alike. The parent body are a largely untapped resource that the school should be accessing. We believe that the tighter the bond between home and school the greater the educational benefits for all.

We have worked with George Otero (Santa Fe, USA) on this and we are committed to continuing to develop this area of school life.

## **Shared Expectations**

### *Expectations For Students*

Students need to:

- Participate in a positive manner;
- Ask for assistance when required;
- Treat others with respect and dignity;
- Support classmates and teachers; &
- Value and respect school resources.

### *Expectations For Teachers*

Teachers need to:

- Make sure every student has an equal opportunity to participate and succeed in their learning;
- Create a stimulating and enjoyable learning environment in the classroom;
- Provide a wide range of resources to engage students;
- Listen to students and value their input;
- Listen to parents' insights into their children's learning;
- Use ICT to maximise the learning and assessment cycle.

### *Expectations For The Principal*

The Principal needs to:

- Provide leadership for staff and students;
- Ensure staff, students and the wider community understand school expectations;
- Provide resources and equipment to assist teaching and learning;
- Ensure curriculum provides for the needs of all students with a range of needs; &
- Encourage the participation of parents in the school.

### *Expectations for Parents/Carers*

Parents/Carers need to:

- Promote positive educational outcomes for their children by taking an active interest in their child's educational progress;
- Cooperate with the school and participate in regular and constructive communication with school staff regarding their child's learning and wellbeing;



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- Actively support their child's engagement in the school environment;
- Support their children and ensure they attend school regularly, are prepared for the day and are on time;
- Communicate clearly with the school about the needs of their children, and work with the school to promote positive educational outcomes for them;
- Support the school by modelling positive behaviours and assisting their children with their school work; &
- Cooperate with requests from the school.

## School Actions & Consequences

St. Patrick's Primary School runs a student behaviour management and student discipline framework based The Four R's - Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships.

<http://fuse.education.vic.gov.au/ResourcePackage/ByPin?pin=2JZX4R>

*School Rules:* St. Patrick's has three school rules that govern the expectations and behaviour of students. The students use these simple rules to learn how they should behave in different areas of the school. The students have agreed on expected behaviours in different areas of the school. These are displayed in the relevant areas of the school and are also displayed in their classrooms.

### *Positive rewards:*

*St Patrick's Student Of The Week-* Every week each teacher chooses a 'Student of the Week' from their class. The student and the reason for them receiving the award are included in the weekly newsletter. They also receive a certificate at the following weeks assembly.

Policy will be reviewed on a three-year cycle.

**Principal Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_