

ST MARK'S LUTHERAN POLICY FOR SUPPORTING POSITIVE STUDENT BEHAVIOUR

Source of the Obligation

Criterion 3.4 of the SA Registration Standards requires the St Mark's learning community to implement policies and procedures for student welfare that covers behaviour management including associated safety and welfare management.

St Mark's Lutheran Positive Student Behaviour

St Mark's Lutheran is committed to creating an environment that promotes the values of love, forgiveness, integrity, patience, respect, justice, cooperation, service, hope, compassion and excellence.

At St Mark's we believe learning in an environment that is safe, respectful and nurturing promotes confidence, positive risk taking and improved learning outcomes (Learning Principle 2).

At St Mark's God's love and forgiveness is the motivation for encouraging and supporting students to make positive choices when it comes to their relationship with others.

The Policy For Supporting Positive Student Behaviour aligns to the school's Four Paths of Respect - Respect for Learning, Respectful Actions, Respectful Words and Respect for Safety.

The Policy sets the framework through which St Mark's manages student behaviour. At St Mark's we support student positive behaviour through proactive measures.

Proactive Measures

- Nurture positive, connected, respectful relationships with students
- Develop and maintain a restorative culture
- Clearly set student behavioural expectations
- Implement proactive teaching and learning programs that support positive behaviour and overall student wellbeing
- Communicate student behaviour expectations to the wider learning community
- Maintain records of student behaviour to assist staff in determining patterns of student behaviour
- Engage the advice and support of Allied Health Professionals when student behaviours are non-responsive to the school's Guidelines for Supporting Positive Student Behaviours
- Seek partnership from students' families in responding to student behaviour

Prohibition of Corporal Punishment

It is our policy at St Mark's Lutheran to:

- Prohibit corporal punishment
- Prohibit other degrading punishments, meaning any punishment which is incompatible with restorative practices including corporal punishment and non-physical punishment which belittles, humiliates, denigrates, scapegoats, threatens, scares or ridicules a student
- Do not sanction the administering of corporal or degrading punishment by non-school persons including parents to enforce discipline at the school
- The use of any corporal punishment by a staff member or teacher prohibited under the Education and Early Childhood Services (Registration and Standards) Act 2011 (SA). Any staff member who breaches this prohibition will be subject to disciplinary proceedings which may include dismissal.

Procedural Fairness For Students

Procedural fairness includes the right to:

- Know what the school rules are
- Know the expected behaviours for each of the Four Paths of Respect
- Know the steps for dealing with behaviour
- Have students heard by staff

Consequences

Staff may impose consequences that are reasonable and align to the student's breach of behaviour.

Consequences are those permitted by the Education Regulations 2012 (SA) and may include:

- Warning or reprimand
- Time outs
- Clean up duties
- Cancellation of privileges
- Withdrawal from Learning Community activities
- Recess and lunch time detentions

Individual Student Behaviour Plan

An Individual Student Behaviour Support Plan is implemented when students require support in modifying behaviour that continues to impact the learning and wellbeing of other students. The Individual Student Behaviour Support Plan will be formulated by staff with the support of the Principal or delegate and consider the student's age, developmental needs and the routines, activities and context the behaviour occurs.

In the event an Individual Student Behaviour Support Plan does not achieve the desired outcome, the Principal or delegate will seek support and guidance from Allied Health Professionals. In the event any subsequent plan for dealing with challenging behaviour does not achieve the desired outcome, the Principal reserves the right to terminate student enrolment.

Implementation

This policy is implemented by:

- Staff training and professional learning opportunities in positive student behaviour
- The St Mark's Lutheran Policy for Positive Student Behaviour should be read in conjunction with the St Mark's Guidelines for Positive Student Behaviour
- Communicating this policy to parents/ caregivers
- Monitoring the effectiveness of the policy
- Reviewing and evaluating the policy annually

Review

The St Mark's Policy for Positive Student Behaviour was endorsed by School Council on September 27th, 2021 with the next review date scheduled for September 27th, 2024.