



# Pastoral Care Policy

*Date of last major review: August 2016*

*Date of next major review: August 2020*

## RATIONALE

At Our Lady of the Assumption, we believe that the pastoral care of students, families and staff is of utmost importance for the wellbeing and advancement of our school community. Our Parish vision and mission beliefs are based on inclusion and acceptance. This is reflected in our motto, 'Come As You Are'. Pastoral Care focuses and upholds our Christian faith by investing in the following dimensions: quality of relationships, formation in self discipline and responsibility, pastoral programs, supportive school-family relationships, effective networks of care and coordinated organisational structures. The relationship between our school and parish community is vibrant and supportive. We are linked by our shared values, beliefs and understandings that have come from our Christian faith united with optimal practices of teaching and learning.

## AIMS

We aim to:

- Foster high quality interpersonal relationships between students, staff and community
- Model by example, the importance of inclusion and dignity of the person
- Support students in their recognition of self worth
- Implement policies and school rules that promote the positive management of behaviours
- Provide pastoral programs for the development of social relationships, moral development, emotional resilience and personal safety
- Utilise effectively networks of care
- Establish and maintain structural / organisational arrangements that are responsive to the needs of the whole school community

## IMPLEMENTATION

The following vehicles work in partnership for the effective and successful implementation of pastoral care in our school-parish community:

- School Leadership Team
- Student Wellbeing Support Group, scheduled weekly meetings

- National Safe Schools Framework Committee
- A is for Attitude
- Circle Time
- You Can Do It! Education Curriculum
- Protective Behaviours Program
- Human Development Program – Family Life & Life Education Van
- Drug Education Program – see Drug Education Policy
- Religious Education
- Seasons Program
- Parish Priest
- Pastoral Associates available for student and family counselling
- Onpsych Counselling service
- OLA School Advisory Council (OSAC)
- Parents and Friends Committee / Parents as Partners
- Maintenance Committee
- Buddy Program
- Student Representative Council
- CEM Resources: “Growing Together in Life and Love” (2012);  
Identity & Growth: A Perspective for Catholic Schools (2018)

## **EVALUATION**

Policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s four year review cycle.

## **APPENDIX:** Catholic Education Office Melbourne 2010 Policy 2.26