

ST BERNARD'S PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL



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St Bernard's Parish Primary School Philosophy Statements

The care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people is a central and fundamental responsibility of St Bernard's Parish Catholic Primary School

Educational Philosophy

St Bernard' Parish Primary School has high expectations of all students. We want students to experience success in their learning. We support students in aspiring to 'individual greatness'. Maintaining a safe, harmonious place for our staff, students and families to learn and grow together is a priority. Maintaining student and staff wellbeing is a key part of our mission.

Social and emotional learning is regarded as an essential component to the education of the whole child. We work in partnership with numerous community organisations and we employ a school counsellor to work with students and families in a proactive approach, in order to address social learning needs and wellbeing for students and their families.

As staff we are committed to supporting students in their learning diversity so as to enable each student to reach their full potential. We aim to provide a rich and broad spectrum of educational experiences that offer our students opportunities for learning and personal development

Faith

As we journey together in faith our aim is to be a community who, by using Jesus as our model, promotes justice and opportunities to act justly at school, in the local community and globally.

Through the teaching of gospel values and celebrating the sacraments as a community, we hope to nurture the spiritual development of each child.

Through sharing the word of God and learning and celebrating Jesus' love for each person, we hope to promote a sense of self-including a love of and pride in self. In doing this we hope to celebrate our diversity through family and community.

Religious Education

We have close links with our Catholic Parish community. Religious Education is taught daily. We view our role in the Catholic school as one of invitation. We invite our children and families to enter into a conversation about God. We enable children to 'meet Jesus'. We teach our Catholic traditions. Most importantly is our belief in the goodness of all and in the potential of each child in our care. Together with our Parish community we provide a sacramental program each year. Children are offered First Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation.

Learning and Teaching

As a school we will provide students with planned learning opportunities in which they are likely to experience success. Achievements will be celebrated and affirmed through school assemblies, concerts, newsletters and local media.

Our school will strive to provide staff with informed practice so as to teach educational programs that will instil a love for learning and encourage students to respond to the best of their abilities.

Through our Religious Education program, children develop an understanding of what it means to be catholic, including an awareness of and respect for other faiths, cultures, traditions and the environment.

By providing the children with an inclusive curriculum and teaching the necessary skills such as inquiry skills, we hope to develop the children's sense of justice and empower them to become active and informed citizens so as to equip them in their world.

Pastoral

By our own example we will model respect for each other. Through our Curriculum and modelling we will promote and develop tolerance, compassion, equality, justice and joy in each other's presence. We will provide opportunities to develop and celebrate our gifts, talents, creativity and individuality. We will ensure that policies and programs nurture the whole person and cater for student needs.

We acknowledge the role of families and provide programs and services to support them. We will promote a sense of family within the school providing opportunities for students to work in a harmonious environment, which is conducive to learning and reflection.

Pastoral Care - Behaviour Management

At St Bernard's we aim to live the example of Jesus Christ. We believe that everyone has the right to feel and be safe at school. We follow a 'Restorative' approach to discipline. Through this approach we view relationship-building and behaviour management as a means to strengthen community among students and between students, teachers and parents, through educational processes.

Conflict or wrongdoing is seen as causing harm to people and relationships, and there is an obligation first to repair this harm in order for the people involved to move forward. It is a way of educating students towards self-regulated right behaviour that is respectful of all concerned. In particular, it puts the onus back on the wrongdoer to be truly accountable for their behaviour and to repair any harm caused to others.

Bullying in any form is viewed as unacceptable in our school. The school has implemented strategies to eliminate or reduce the risk to health and safety from bullying. Where it is not practicable to eliminate the risk, the school has reduced the risk, so far as is practicable. Discrimination, sexual and other forms of harassment, bullying, violence, aggression and threatening behaviour are unacceptable and will not be tolerated at our school.

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