

SJV School Behaviour Policy



St John Vianney's
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Introduction

In keeping with the St John Vianney's School Mission Statement, the school community of St John Vianney's recognises the need to have a Student Behaviour Policy. At St John's Vianney's School, we respect the rights and responsibilities of all members of the school community to have a safe and secure environment in which the Catholic ethos is encouraged. All community members are expected to work actively and positively together.

Rationale

The St John Vianney's School Behaviour Policy aims to:

- provide a framework to ensure students are taught the consequences of both positive, appropriate behaviour and negative, inappropriate behaviour;
- develop and maintain a safe and secure teaching and learning environment;
- document the School's agreed position on the implementation of the Behaviour Plan which complements the School-wide Expectations; and
- ensure a consistent approach to behaviour management from Prep to Year Six.

School-wide Expectations

The St John Vianney's School-wide Expectations summarise in a positive and empowering way, the behavioural expectations of all within our community. All students are briefed and taught the expectations. There is an ongoing commitment to the pro-active social skilling of all children and the Gospel call to live in right relationship with our God, our world, ourselves and our fellow human beings.

At St John Vianney's School our school-wide expectations are:

- **Be Respectful**
- **Be Responsible**
- **Be Safe**
- **Be a Learner**

Restorative practices are used to deal with situations when students make the wrong choices. Through a common language, the story of harm and repair in relationships is told through the eyes of perpetrator and victim. The restorative practice sequence includes: *What happened? What were you thinking? What do you need to make things right? What will you do differently next time?*

Property

At St John Vianney's School, all members of the St John Vianney's community have a collective responsibility for our school environment. This includes communal property, for example, buildings, school grounds, furniture, resources, fixtures and fittings, as well as the property of individuals.

Truancy, Suspension and Exclusion

With more serious issues of infringement of the School Behaviour Policy, St John Vianney's will follow procedures as set out in the Brisbane Catholic Education Guidelines for truancy, suspension and exclusion. The BCE Guidelines are available from the office.

School Behaviour Plan

All members of the school community are committed to working in right relationships with one another. An affirmative whole school approach is implemented at St John Vianney's to teach and encourage positive behaviour and attitudes. Our whole school program is based on pro-active teaching, personal goal setting, regular affirmation, as well as ensuring consequences are detailed, taught, applied and monitored.

Consequences

All School Behaviour related issues and incidents will be managed with the welfare of the St John Vianney's School Community in mind, and in accordance with Brisbane Catholic Education Guidelines. The St John Vianney's Primary School Behaviour Policy is binding on all members of the community whilst they are on school premises or at a school function, excursion or camp.

Implementation/Management will include:-

- all staff implementing and being committed to the School Behaviour Management Plan.
- all members of the community being made aware of the School-wide Expectations.
- provision of specialist's services where and when required, e.g. guidance officer, counsellor, school pastoral care worker.

Bullying

Every person within St John Vianney's School community is encouraged to be vigilant in recognising and discouraging bullying in any form, and to foster gentleness and tolerance so that our school is a happy and supportive community of learners. Raising awareness of bullying and promoting a supportive climate for children is the responsibility of all within the school community. It must be noted that not all behaviours are bullying, despite having been perceived differently by some students. Behaviours deemed as bullying are clarified against the definition as detailed in this policy. All staff are briefed annually on the requirements of this policy regarding behaviour management and bullying.

The following strategies will be implemented as a proactive deterrent to bullying behaviours:

- The school has a duty of care for both the victim and the perpetrator of bullying and must advocate for both parties;
- Constant reinforcement of the School-wide Expectations will occur;
- Spelling out what each element of the Code looks like, sounds like and feels like must occur in classroom teaching;
- Whole school behaviour plan is adhered to;
- Purchase and use of anti-bullying resources;
- "Friends" program implemented where appropriate;
- Student Protection Program (school based P-7 teaching and learning framework of protective behaviours);
- Displaying "Feeling Un-Safe" posters in all student access areas;
- Student participation in awareness programs such as the Bravehearts Ditto Show and Cyber-awareness programs;
- Staff training to ensure consistency of approach and provide strategies to handle disclosures of aggressive or bullying behaviour;
- We recognise that there are students within our community with specific learning and behavioural differences. This will be taken into account in regard to bullying situations as these children may be at risk of being more involved in bullying situations either as the victim or the perpetrator.

Our definition of Bullying: *Repeated oppression (psychological or physical) of another person by an individual or group of people.*

Types of Bullying:

Physical Bullying: Examples include: hitting, kicking, punching.

Non Physical Bullying: Examples include: cyber-bullying; verbal abuse especially name calling; gossiping, rumour mongering; cruel or continued teasing; removing or hiding belongings; threatening and menacing gestures and body language; deliberately excluding others.

School Bullying Implementation Plan

The implementation of the following plan must occur should the school identify a case of bullying:

- All cases of reported breaches of the School-wide Expectations considered significant should be noted using the response cards in the school behaviour plan. This data effectively records the behaviour history of students whose behaviour is repeatedly inappropriate.
- General aggressive/inappropriate behaviour is handled through the behaviour plan system.
- Repeated offenders are referred to the Staff Referral Committee. Parents are informed of the strategies to be employed in dealing with referred students.
- Parents may be requested to attend a meeting.
- Repeated bullying behaviours are fully investigated. Notes and reports are prepared. Students involved and their parents are notified of the investigation and involved where appropriate.
- If the behaviour is identified as bullying, the School Guidance Officer is notified, a meeting with the offender and his/her parents is convened with the classroom teacher, Principal and Guidance Officer. A similar meeting would be required for the victim. An action plan is formulated, signed by all parties involved and closely monitored by the Principal or Assistant Principal.
- In cases of repeated bullying, suspension from class, suspension from school and exclusion could occur. This is done in consultation with the school Area Supervisor representing Brisbane Catholic Education.
- Mediation processes chaired by the School Guidance Officer are implemented in order to establish conflict resolution between the parties involved.
- In cases where students have not disclosed bullying, yet been aware of it, assertive classroom teaching is implemented to ensure students know and feel comfortable with their responsibility to report repeated offences of bullying.
- Ongoing monitoring of all students involved in a case of bullying (and this includes victim, perpetrator and peers) occurs and is noted in the School Behaviour Management Plan records.
- Parents are requested to report any alleged incidents of bullying to the Administration Team to follow up. It is inappropriate for parents of alleged victims to approach other children on any matter related to student discipline.
- In cases where the alleged bullying occurs between adults within the community, a similar process must occur, which involves investigation, mediation, consultation and resolution. This may include and require the expertise of the Guidance Officer.

Conclusion

Local school based procedures for behaviour management are negotiated regularly and all staff consulted and trained in order to ensure consistency of expectation and response occurs. The school encourages open and respectful communication, acceptance and understanding in all matters relating to student behaviour choices, bullying behaviours and breaches of the School-wide Expectations.

Summary of Behaviour Consequences

Time Out

Children can be placed on Time Out for the following reasons:-

- answering back in a disrespectful manner
- talking over the top of a teacher in a deliberate, inappropriate manner
- blatant disobedience
- aggressive body language
- use of obscene language
- leaving the school grounds without permission
- destruction of, or damage to, school or children's property
- causing harm to other people by using 'hands on' or bullying
- out of bounds during class or play times
- dangerous behaviour to self or others