



Purpose

Pastoral care is based on respect for the dignity and uniqueness of the individual person who is made in the image of God. It is an individual and community response to Jesus' call to: love one another as I have loved you (John 13.34). When Catholic Education is faithful to the call of the Gospel, compassion, justice and reconciliation are evident throughout the life of the education community.

Scope

This policy applies to the whole Monivae College Community.

Legislative Context

- *Working with Children Act 2006 (Vic)*
- *Children, Youth and Families Act 2005 (Vic)*
- *Children and Young Person's Act 1989 (Vic)*

Definitions

Term	Definition
Pastoral Care	The action taken within the educational community by its leaders and community members to promote and enhance the wellbeing of the individual of a personal, social, physical, emotional, mental or spiritual nature. Key elements of wellbeing are positive self-regard, respect for others, positive relationships, responsible behaviours and personal resilience.
Safe and Supportive School	The risk from all types of harm is minimised, diversity is valued and all members of the school community feel respected and included and can be confident that they will receive support in the face of any threats to their safety or wellbeing (National Safe Schools Framework).

Policy Statement

Monivae College is committed to providing a safe and supportive environment that respects the dignity of each person and allows all within the community to pursue fullness of life.

The Pastoral Care program at Monivae College respects the MSC Ethos and will embrace all members of its community.

Principles

Foundational to the nature of pastoral care at Monivae College is the belief that each person is created in the image and likeness of God (*Genesis 1:27*), with the inherent dignity that this implies. Each is created as a social being, with the mutual rights, obligations and needs that this implies.

Pastoral care at Monivae College affirms and gives expression to the belief that '*the person of each individual human being, in his or her material and spiritual needs, is at the heart of Christ's teaching.*'

Monivae College exercises its pastoral responsibilities under the leadership of the Principal. Parents exercise their responsibility by providing positive support and collaborative

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engagement with the school in support of staff, student and school community wellbeing

Respectful and cooperative school-family relationships provide an effective channel of pastoral care for students. The school and its families share responsibility for developing and maintaining such relationships of trust, characterised by respect for the goodwill of the other and a willingness to engage collaboratively

Student and staff wellbeing is best achieved within a school environment that is safe, supportive, inclusive and empowering, where diversity is respected and valued, where human rights and the common good are honoured, where inter-relationships are positive, where students experience connectedness and engagement, and where those experiencing difficulty or special need receive particular care and support

Enhanced student wellbeing contributes significantly to improved student learning outcomes. Effective pastoral care is therefore recognised as promoting the achievement of learning outcomes and thus contributing to a school improvement framework

Effective whole-of-school approaches to pastoral care require age-appropriate behavioural education and skilling of students, and pastorally driven management of student behaviour through processes focused on both individual and community wellbeing, and on ensuring a just and reasonable balance of individual and community rights, needs and responsibilities.

Monivae College pastoral care policies and procedures are developed collaboratively and reviewed periodically. They are published on the school website if appropriate and readily accessible to staff, students, parents and guardians.

Supporting Documents

- Pastoral Care and Wellbeing Procedure

Responsibility

Approval Authority	Policy Sponsor	Administration
Responsible for monitoring the implementation, outcomes and scheduled review of this policy	Responsible for maintaining the content of this policy as delegated by the Approval Authority	Responsible for the administration support for the maintenance of this policy as directed by the Policy Sponsor
Principal	Director of Students	Compliance and Risk Manager

Promulgation

This policy will be communicated throughout the Monivae College school community in the form of:

- policies section of the Monivae College website;
- policy library section of the Monivae College intranet; and
- distribution of email to all staff.

Implementation

This policy will be implemented throughout Monivae College via:

- policy library section of the Monivae College intranet;
- staff briefing session; and
- training sessions.

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