PASTORAL CARE POLICY

Rationale:
Following the example of Christ, we support and encourage the growth and welfare of every person in our community. We believe every child has the right to spiritual, emotional, academic, social and physical growth. This growth is nurtured in a Christian environment, where pastoral care permeates the whole school environment.

Aims:
- To enable all people to grow and be affirmed in their dignity and worth as a person made in the image and likeness of Jesus.
- To enable people to appreciate themselves and to develop skills in building personal relationships based on the Gospel values espoused by Christ.
- To create an environment that facilitates the development and experience of self-discipline.
- To set up appropriate structures which enable parents, teachers and professionals to care for the total well-being of each child within their family context.
- To establish supportive relationships between families, teachers and students.
- To ensure that the rights of all members of the school community are respected and upheld.
- To create an environment where forgiveness is modelled and is a key component to the individual growth of people.

Implementation:
Each teacher will be given a copy of the rationale and aims of the pastoral care and discipline policies in order to be thoroughly conversant with their rationale, aims and implementation.

The staff, together with the Student Wellbeing Team, supports all children across the school. Parent concerns regarding their child should be directed firstly to the classroom teacher or specialist, whichever is applicable, then to the Principal/Deputy Principal if required.

Teachers in consultation with parent/s are able to refer any child to the Student Wellbeing Co-ordinator who they feel is at risk during any stage of their development.

Parent/teacher liaison and communication for these children will occur regularly, both on an informal and formal basis. Children’s progress will be monitored and reviewed by the classroom teacher and parent/s.

Program support groups will be established for children with special needs, under the co-ordination of the Student Wellbeing Co-ordinator.

Evaluation:
This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s review cycle.