Statement

All members of the MacKillop Catholic College community will work together to develop and foster an effective environment for pastoral care so that supportive relationships between families, students and staff are established and nurtured.

Definition

Pastoral care is the means of providing a supportive atmosphere and structures to enable a community to meet its needs and aspirations.

Community is the group consisting of staff, students, families and friends interacting to have an impact on the MacKillop Catholic College environment.

Rationale

Pastoral care, reflecting its origins in Jesus’ response to others, aims to meet the personal, physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the students and the needs of other members of the MacKillop Catholic College community.

Pastoral care should develop the qualities implicit in a caring community. These include: understanding, friendliness, discretion, mutual respect and good communication.

Guidelines

1. The College will establish clear and open lines of communication.

2. The College will establish supportive and effective pastoral care structures.

3. Pastoral care initiatives should include sequential programs of personal development, individual education programs for students with special needs, and access to support and advice for parents and staff.

4. In the delivery of pastoral care and in response to current issues the College’s pastoral care processes and procedures will be sensitive to the individual needs of students, families and staff.

5. College staff will endeavour to:

   a) know the students, their particular strengths and weaknesses, their needs and ambitions, their health and backgrounds with due regard to confidentiality;

   b) support the students academically, socially and emotionally.

6. Students and parents will endeavour to support teachers by respecting their individual teaching styles, by acknowledging their needs and working together.