



# Student Welfare Policy

BOS Manual, 3.6.2

## Related policies:

- **Student Discipline Policy**

## *RATIONALE*

Coffs Harbour Christian Community School (CHCCS) seeks to promote a healthy, supportive and secure environment that ensures the wellbeing of its students. We do this by adhering to Biblical principles. We also assist our students to “Grow up into Christ” whereby they may reach their full potential and build strong, positive and peaceful relationships with others within a caring and prosperous community.

Students’ learning and growth is enhanced:

- When they can learn and grow in confidence; and
- Where teaching and learning occurs within a safe and supportive environment; and
- When all members of the school community participate in the learning programs and overall life of the school.

## **Rights and Responsibilities**

Created in the image of the living God, everyone at CHCCS is endowed with inalienable **rights**:

- **Students** have the right to work, play, interact and learn in a friendly, safe and supportive school environment;
- **Staff** have the right to work in a friendly, safe and collaborative environment with ongoing support from the whole school community;
- **Parents and families** have the right to be welcome at the school and to know that their children are safe and supported while at school.

In accordance with the teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ everyone at CHCCS is charged with the **responsibility** to “Love one another”, which includes:

- Respect and tolerance for the rights of others within the rules of CHCCS;
- Respect and care for the belongings of others, including school property and equipment.

## AIM

The Student Welfare Policy at CHCCS is closely linked to the Student Discipline Policy. Together, they establish a whole-school-approach to foster cooperation and respect which affects all aspects of school life.

In particular, the Student Welfare Policy aims to:

- Maintain a positive, supportive and safe environment where all staff assume responsibility for student welfare, and are skilled and proactive in the management of student welfare issues;
- Impart behaviour management and conflict resolution skills to students in order to foster mutual respect and co-operation. Students will gain confidence and demonstrate a consistently caring attitude to all people within our school community.
- Assist students develop positive social behaviours and to develop healthy relationships, in and out of school;
- Develop student leaders to act as role models and mentors;
- Encourage engagement with students' families and the local Christian community in mutually-supportive roles that fosters student welfare.

## IMPLEMENTATION

The Student Welfare Policy and Student Discipline Policy are integrated into a **Behaviour Management Program** for each of the Junior, Middle and Senior schools at CHCCS. These programs are underpinned by several important and fundamental principles.

### Effective Learning and Teaching

Learning and teaching is enhanced by encouraging students to take responsibility for their own learning and behaviour. Identifying and catering for the individual learning needs of students in well-managed teaching and learning environments also helps improve student outcomes. Parental participation with students and teachers in discussing learning programs, student behaviour and progress draws our school community together in common purpose.

### Positive Climate and Good Discipline

Our school should be a positive place to work and study. This is achieved by:

- Recognising and balancing the relationship between student and staff welfare;
- Providing opportunities for students to demonstrate success in a wide range of activities; and

- To provide resources and opportunities for students to gain leadership experience through the implementation and support of a Student Executive body made up of senior students elected and appointed by the school's executive staff.

### Civics and Citizenship

Our school encourages the regular and ongoing connection between students, staff, parents and the wider Christian community, particularly through church attendance and involvement with youth groups. Community service and active participation in fundraising for charities and overseas missions help our students develop positive habits of generosity as they give of time, energy and finances to those less fortunate or in need of community support, consistent with Christ's teachings.

### School Responsibility

We want to ensure that student welfare underpins all the policies and activities of the school. Our policies and practices are open to review within our planning processes and we inform parents and the school community of the development of strategies for student welfare and discipline in all the activities of the school through our newsletters and website.

We ensure that all of our teaching and support staff are familiar with the school's policies relating to student welfare and discipline, and that they actively participate in, and contribute to a caring, well-managed and safe environment for all students, fellow staff and parents.

The school also provides suitably qualified staff to develop specific mechanisms for integrating behaviour management, conflict resolution and support for students experiencing emotional, social, academic or physical difficulties.