Respectful Relationships (Responsible Behaviours) Policy

CONTEXT STATEMENT

Samaritan College is a God-centred community where the uniqueness of the individual is valued and the love of learning is fostered. The College strives to nurture the Christian values of love, hope, joy, support, forgiveness, patience, peace and justice, where prayer is an important part of our lives. It is a community in which there is opportunity to learn, grow, search and discover together as well as time and opportunity for listening. Samaritan College endeavours to foster the development of personal dignity and respect for self and others.

UNDERLYING ASSUMPTIONS, PHILOSOPHY & RATIONALE

We at Samaritan College acknowledge:
- Parent/Caregivers are the primary educators of their children;
- Members of the College community demonstrate social responsibilities which reflect Gospel values;
- Respectful relationships are grounded upon the values of justice and reconciliation with an explicit respect for the dignity of each person;
- Social responsibilities integrated with Gospel values are both modelled and explicitly taught across the curriculum;
- The importance of encouraging students to be active participants in the College and wider community;
- The right of all members of the community to feel safe and confident within the College community;
- The importance of fostering an environment in which students can achieve to the best of their ability and fulfil their potential.
- The need to articulate expectations regarding acceptable behaviour.

PURPOSES / AIMS

Through the application of this policy, Samaritan College will:
- Ensure a physically and emotionally secure and safe environment which nurtures the development of respectful and positive relationships;
- Provide relevant curriculum, contemporary methodologies, structures and practices which meet the needs of students from a diversity of backgrounds;
- Foster a learning environment in which students can achieve to the best of their ability;
- Acknowledge and celebrate success;
- Encourage each member of the community in the pursuit of excellence.

GUIDELINES & PROCEDURE

In support of this policy Samaritan College will:
- Provide relevant curriculum, structures and practices which meet the learning needs of students from a diversity of backgrounds;
- Develop a feeling of self-worth in community members
- Acknowledge and celebrate success;
- Encourage each member of the community in the pursuit of excellence in all aspects of College life.
The Co Principals will:

• Provide a contemporary, relevant and diversified curriculum to meet the learning and social needs of students;
• Provide programs to enable students to develop self-awareness and effective social relationship skills;
• Continue to develop, create, and maintain an environment in which students learn to respect the rights of others and fulfil their responsibilities;
• Formulate systems and structures which establish the rights, responsibilities and consequences for responsible and irresponsible behaviour in a Christian community; supported by a co-operative negotiation between staff, students and parents;
• Provide opportunities to acknowledge and celebrate success within the College community;
• Provide training for staff to develop effective strategies in the management of student behaviour.

The Staff will:

• Participate in the delivery of programs to assist students in the development of effective human relationships and social skills;
• Provide engaging and relevant learning programs which acknowledge different learning styles and utilise a diverse range of methods to meet the learning needs of students;
• Establish and foster an environment in which students learn to respect the rights of others and fulfil their responsibilities;
• Develop in students an understanding of the role of personal choice in their behaviour;
• Have an opportunity to positively reinforce appropriate behaviour;
• Encourage the pursuit of excellence in all aspects of College life.

The Students will:

• Develop an understanding of behaviour as a process involving personal choice;
• Accept responsibility for their own behaviour;
• Respect the dignity and the rights of others;
• Accept that everyone has the right to feel safe and be safe in the College community;
• Have an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate success.

The Parents/Caregivers will:

• Support their child in the development of respectful relationships;
• Support the College’s respectful relationships (responsible behaviours) policy.
• Act as positive role models for their child;
• Have an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate their child’s success;

The College Board will:

• Participate in the development, implementation and review of this policy.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

• SACCS Suspension & Expulsion Procedures for Catholic Schools (2006)
• Policy for the Care, Wellbeing and Protection of Children and Young People (2011)
• Samaritan College Respectful Relationships (Anti-Bullying) Policy (2010)
• Samaritan College Vision Statement
• Samaritan College Student Diary
• Samaritan College Online Staff Handbook
• Samaritan College Newsletter and Website

RESOURCES

• Provide relevant curriculum and range of programs to assist students in their growth and development: (Choice Theory, Mind Matters, Walker Learning Program, Literacy & Numeracy programs, Student Learning Support initiatives, etc).
• Provide and support the professional development of teachers in dealing with behavioural issues.
• Centacare counsellors on site at all campuses

2
This policy will be reviewed triennially by the College, unless otherwise required.

Signed: .................................  Co Principal  

.................................  Co Principal  

.................................  Chair of College Board  

Date: .................................  Ratified and Implemented  

Review Date:  Term 2 2015