



Mossgiel Park Primary School

Managing Student Behaviour (Discipline) Policy

Rationale:

Positive and responsible student behaviour is essential to the smooth running of the school, to the achievement of optimal learning opportunities, and to the development of a supportive and cooperative school environment. A partnership between parents and teachers is needed to manage and improve the behaviour of those students who engage in disrespectful, disruptive or hurtful behaviour. Well understood and logical consequences for student behaviour are an essential component of student behaviour management.

Aims:

- To build a school environment based on positive behaviour, mutual respect and cooperation.
- To recognise and respond to the triggers that lead to poor behavioural choices.
- To manage poor behaviour in a positive and professional manner.
- To establish well understood and logical consequences for student behaviour.

Implementation:

- The management of student behaviour must be consistent with legal responsibilities under various acts of legislation, including The Equal Opportunity Act 2010; The Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006; The Disability Standards for Education 2005, which clarify and make more explicit the obligations on schools and the rights of students under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*(Cth); and The Education and Training Reform Act 2006, and also with DET policy, regulations and advice to schools.
- Corporal punishment prohibited by law.
- This policy must be read and implemented in conjunction with the Mossgiel Park PS Student Engagement and Wellbeing Policy, which outlines the rights, responsibilities and shared expectations of staff, students, and other members of the school community; and specifies school actions and consequences for student behaviour.
- Whole school rules will be negotiated with Junior School Council and staff.
- The school curriculum will include teaching about:
 - Mossgiel Park PS Values i.e. Respect, Relationship and Responsibility.
 - Strategies for dealing with peer pressure; and for the prevention of bullying (including cyber-bullying) and discrimination.
 - The development of conflict resolution skills, resilience and leadership.
 - The benefits of making positive choices.
- The school will maintain comprehensive records and an up-to-date database of student behaviour. All staff have a responsibility to document incidents in an objective and comprehensive manner, and in a consistent format using school proformas.
- Parents will be kept informed of, and actively encouraged to assist in their child's social development at school. Student individual academic reports will include details regarding student behavioural achievement.
- Positive student behavioural achievement will be appropriately recognised.

- Students experiencing difficulty achieving positive behavioural outcomes will undertake individualised behaviour management programs focusing on agreed goals.
- Consequences for ongoing inappropriate behaviour will involve a graded series of sanctions including counselling, withdrawal or loss of privileges.
- For students with *extreme* inappropriate behaviours who have not responded to the above strategies, a Discipline/Student Support Group Meeting is convened, involving parents/carers/guardians and/or relevant Department support staff, and/or outside agencies to assist with modifying behaviour.
- Consequences for extreme or persistent inappropriate behaviours may include suspension and/or expulsion. For serious disciplinary measures we follow procedures outlined in the Student Engagement and Inclusion Guidance (<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/participation/Pages/studentengagementguidance.aspx>). This guidance operationalises Ministerial Order 1125 (Procedures for Suspension and Expulsion of Students in Government Schools) took effect on 16 July 2018. The Order defines the grounds and process for suspensions, expulsions and appeals relating to expulsions of students in government schools. The Order and other laws must be interpreted and applied under the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities. This means that the Order must be complied with in a manner which is consistent with the Charter.
- Professional development, including induction for new staff, will focus on ways of managing student behaviour in a positive and professional manner.

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three year review process.

This policy was last ratified by School Council on the 29th of October, 2019