

STUDENT BEHAVIOUR POLICY

Purpose

The following policy aims to ensure that our Damascus College community behave in a manner consistent with Catholic beliefs and traditions on which it is founded. Staff and students are all active participants in processes relating to student behaviour that promote justice and fairness. All members of the College community will have the opportunity to have their needs heard and their experiences validated.

Scope

This policy applies to all students and staff at Damascus College.

Definitions

Restorative Justice – A response to harm of wrongdoings involves giving everybody a voice, valuing everybody's unique perspective, considering everybody's thoughts, feelings and needs and believing in people's ability to find solutions to their own problems by working together. (Hopkins 2011)

Policy Statement

It is the policy of Damascus College to ensure that every member of the College has the right to feel safe and secure within the school community.

Students at Damascus College have the responsibility to demonstrate and encourage respectful and inclusive behaviours and act when this does not occur.

The principles of Restorative Justice will be applied, where appropriate; to maintain relationships, develop skills for learning and living together, and responding to mistakes and misunderstandings. Damascus College will create a climate where students feel comfortable talking about behaviours that make students feel unsafe including bullying and harassment and then asking for help.

Damascus College will strive to develop resilience in its students through the school curriculum, its pastoral care program and its school structures.

Responsibilities

The Principal and Leadership team are responsible for the implementation of this policy

Associated Documents

Damascus College Student Bullying and Harassment Procedures

Damascus College Pastoral Care Policy

Student Wellbeing Policy

The Restorative Classroom – Using Restorative Approaches to Foster Effective Learning (Hopkins 2011)

Diocesan Behaviour Management Policy