

# PASTORAL CARE

**Scope:** This policy applies to all staff employed in Catholic kindergartens, schools and colleges conducted by Catholic Education - Diocese of Rockhampton (referred to as CEDR in the document). When Catholic Schools is used in the document this refers to kindergartens, schools, colleges and services.

## 1. POLICY STATEMENT

Catholic Education – Diocese of Rockhampton (CEDR) will provide a supportive environment that is founded in Jesus Christ and endeavours to promote and enhance the holistic development of each member of the school community.

Pastoral Care is the responsibility of each person involved in Catholic Schools. It is embedded within and across all domains of school life and is enacted through and within reciprocal relationships.

## 2. DESCRIPTION

Pastoral care is central to the mission of CEDR and has its origins in our belief that each person is made in the image and likeness of God and deserves to be treated with dignity and respect.

Pastoral Care involves the creation of an environment where the spiritual, social, physical and emotional needs of individuals, groups within the school community and the whole school community are addressed.

## 3. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

1. Catholic Schools will review their current policies, procedures and practices to ensure they are reflective of a safe, respectful, inclusive and supportive school environment.
2. Catholic Schools will identify areas in need of development that will enhance pastoral care within the community.
3. Catholic Schools will consult with key members of the school community (e.g. Pastoral Care Coordinators, Indigenous Education Liaison Officers, School Representative Council, School Counsellors, Parish Priest etc) in monitoring pastoral care provision throughout the school.
4. Catholic Schools will consider forming strategic partnerships and accessing services that will enhance pastoral care within the school community.
5. Catholic Schools will seek opportunities to build pastoral care capacity across the school community.

#### 4. REFLECTION MATERIAL

##### CATHOLIC EDUCATION POLICIES AND DOCUMENTS

- [\*Mental Health and Wellbeing\*](#) 2019/08
- [\*Student Mental Health Wellbeing Framework\*](#) 2020

##### RESOURCES

- James Norman *At the Heart of Education: school chaplaincy and pastoral care* Dublin, Veritas 2004
- Congregation for Catholic Education *The Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium* St Pauls Publication 1998
- Congregation for Catholic Education *The Catholic School* St Paul Publication 1976
- Congregation for Catholic Education *The Religious Dimension of Education in a Catholic School* St Paul Publications 1988
- Catholic Schools Office *Pastoral Care Framework* Lismore 2017