Pastoral Care Development Policy for
Our Lady of The Cape Primary School

VISION STATEMENT

Our Lady of the Cape Primary School is a community of faith where the gospel values of Christ are central to all school activities. The full potential of each individual is developed in a collaborative learning environment that recognizes the rights of self and others.

RATIONALE

Pastoral Care at Our Lady of the Cape Primary School means enhancing the dignity of each person within a Catholic faith community. It is concerned with maximising learning and growth and developing the beliefs, values and attitudes, knowledge, skills and practices to enable all to become self motivated, contributing members of our community.

PRINCIPLES

Pastoral Care at Our Lady of the Cape:

- enhances the dignity, self-worth and uniqueness of each person within our Catholic faith community.
- provides a productive learning environment through collaboration that maximises learning and spiritual growth.
- Promotes a community where genuine care, concern and respect are actively lived.
- develops the beliefs, values, attitudes, knowledge, skills and practices to enable all to reach their full potential.

ELEMENTS OF PASTORAL CARE

(Insert Diagram)
1. **ENVIRONMENT** – The environment permeating a Catholic school should be thoroughly infused with the Catholic notion of Pastoral Care.

Life Of Faith

- paraliturgies
- mass
- prayer (class and school)
- sacramental programs
- prayer buddies are included in sacramental programs
- Staff prayer
- School Feast Day – The Feast of the Assumption
- Easter and Christmas celebrations.

Community Dimensions

- School Board
- P and F Association
- Weekly visits from parish priests
- Guest speakers from community
- Annual mission focus
- Christmas hamper for those in need in the community
- Awareness and confidentiality of family situations
- End of year Carols night
- Singing performances for community groups

Administrative Sector

- Student leadership council
- Orientation sessions
- Parent teacher information nights
- Buddy systems in place within the school
- Teacher information file
- Staff social club
- Kris Kindles (staff and students)
- Newsletter
- Supportive staff network
2. POLICY AND PRACTICE – The policies and practices that a school employs should enhance the dignity of the human person. All policies should reflect Pastoral Care.

- Discipline policy
- Uniform policy
- Children with learning difficulties policy
- Crisis management plan
- Orientation of new staff policy
- Enrolment policy
- Camp policy
- Accident and First Aid procedure
- Playground and after school duty of care policy
- R.E.C. ensures annual staff faith development day
- Student management book
- Offer professional development on pastoral care to all staff members
- Use of Curriculum Frameworks
- Attendance registers
- Award cards: - academic, personal achievement, L.O.T.E., music
- Faction tokens awarded for the Efficiency trophy
- Evangelisation Plan
- Annual Citizenship Awards (years 5-7): - Leadership; Christian Fellowship; School Contribution Award

3. CURRICULUM - Curriculum is the total, school-directed experience of students during their schooling.

The curriculum needs to be informed by the Principles of Pastoral Care catering for a variety of student needs and abilities in a Catholic school setting.

- Literacy support
- Individual Education Programmes
- Standardised testing
- Use of portfolios, reports, three way interviews
- First Steps Continuums
- Incorporation of values teaching as documented in Curriculum Frameworks
- Catholic values taught in Religious Education units of work to reflect Catholic Social Justice teachings.
- Years 4, 5, 6 and 7 attend camps.
- Class excursions
- Use of collaborative strategies to promote social skills
- Specialised subjects enhancing school curriculum – Music Eisteddfod
- Assemblies
- Inter school sporting activities
- Athletics trophies and ribbons
CONCLUSION

Pastoral care at Our Lady of the Cape Primary School is concerned with enhancing the dignity of the human person within a Catholic faith community.

It is through the dynamic and inter-related nature of the elements that the dignity of the human person is enhanced.

The principles and elements of this policy will assist our school in developing and refining Pastoral Care further.

To keep the policy active the principles and elements will be reviewed on an annual basis.