



DEVELOPING PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY POLICY

Rationale

At Tenison Woods College we aim to provide a safe and supportive environment for all students, staff and families. We uphold all relevant SACCS policies and procedures, especially those related to child protection and student wellbeing.

Preamble

This policy is written in collaboration with staff, students and parents and it recognises the importance of the Gospel values of respect and dignity for all. The policy is based on the South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools (SACCS) Policy for the Development of Personal Responsibility. It recognises that within our society, it is generally accepted that students should be actively involved in their education. Therefore we look to foster a dynamic learning environment, where the curriculum is relevant, teaching methodologies are effective and students learn to take responsibility for their learning outcomes.

Vision for Developing Personal Responsibility

Tenison Woods College recognises, embraces and develops Christian values of love, peace, justice, forgiveness and hope. This affirms a life-long process of growing spiritually, physically, socially and intellectually.

In collaboration with parents, staff and the wider community students are guided towards accepting ownership of their social behaviour which ensures the rights of teaching and learning for all.

Underlying Beliefs

All members of the Tenison Woods College community:

- have choices which include responsibilities and consequences;
- have the opportunity for reflection to allow for change and growth;
- have the right to feel valued;
- are responsible for their learning and their learning environment;
- are unique;
- have the right to consequences that are consistent, just and reflect the Gospel values of respect, tolerance, forgiveness, love and faith;
- will provide an authentic pastoral care program that promotes a sense of community and personal responsibility;
- will respect each other and their environment; and
- recognise that reconciliation, interdependence and a consciousness of social justice is fundamental in all aspects of learning

Responsibilities

For the policy to be effective it is necessary that all contributing parties are aware of their responsibilities and are provided with the knowledge, skills and understanding to carry out their responsibilities to the highest possible level.

Responsibilities of Students

- To be involved in the development, implementation and review of the policy;
- To be aware of and take responsibility for their choice of behaviour;
- To respect the rights of other students, staff and themselves;
- To engage fully in the learning and process;
- To understand and take ownership of this policy and all relevant policies; and
- To understand and take responsibility for the choices they make.

Responsibilities of Parents

- To be involved in the development, implementation and review of the policy;
- To work collaboratively and harmoniously with the school and members of the community to support learning;
- To act as role models and to be actively involved in the education of their children; and
- To encourage their children to respect the rights of others in the light of the Gospel values.

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Responsibilities of Teachers

- To be involved in the development, implementation and review of the policy;
- To create a safe, caring environment in the light of the Gospel values of justice, reconciliation and respect for human dignity;
- To provide opportunities for students to experience a range of success through innovative methodologies and teaching practices;
- To be aware of the impact their behaviour has on the learning environment;
- To foster positive and effective relationships with students and their families;
- To recognise and reinforce in students a greater understanding, acceptance and demonstration of responsibility for their own choice of behaviour;
- To be aware of all relevant policies and legal obligations; and
- To teach individual students the relevant social skills to enable them to make informed choices about behaviour.

Responsibilities of School Leadership

- To ensure that the Gospel values of justice, reconciliation and respect for human dignity are modelled and supported in the school environment;
- To ensure the rights of teachers to teach and students to learn in a safe, caring Christian environment are valued and protected;
- To ensure that the relevant curriculum, teaching methodologies, school structure and practices meet the needs and interests of all students;
- To ensure that all members of the school community are aware of the expectations and the consequences of responsible and irresponsible behaviour;
- To support staff in fostering positive and effective relationships with students and their families;
- To support students in developing and implementing positive behaviour choices; and
- To ensure all members of the school community understand and implement the policies relevant to developing personal responsibility.

Associated Policies

- TWC Anti-Harassment Policy
- TWC Prohibitive Substances Policies
- Other relevant Tension Woods College policies eg WHS
- Policy for the Development of Personal Responsibility (SACCS)
- Child Protection Policy (SACCS)

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