



STPATRICK'S
Technical College

SACE ■ TRAINING ■ APPRENTICESHIPS

Policies & Procedures 5.1

Pastoral Care

Version 5: 14 January 2014
Ratified by Board of Directors: Feb 2014
Review Date: Feb 2017





INTRODUCTION

Pastoral Care is a vital and most important component of College responsibility. It applies to all members of the College community and lays the foundation stone for establishing a culture in which students, staff, parents and the wider College community can work together in a caring, safe and productive environment.

Kevin Treston's Definition of Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care is the total expression of St Patrick's Technical College's care of students.

Pastoral Care is the active pursuit of programs and practices that promote and develop the intellectual, emotional, physical, psychological, social and spiritual dimensions of individuals through the establishment of a safe, secure and welcoming environment where support structures are evident.

Pastoral Care is a call to action, of not letting go when it may seem more expedient to loosen the ties, particularly for those who are greatest in need.

AIM OF THE POLICY

At St Patrick's Technical College the development of personal responsibility and behaviour management processes are formulated in the light of Christian values that ensure the rights of teachers to teach and students to learn in a safe and caring environment.

The Pastoral Care policy identifies and expresses a common vision about Pastoral Care at St Patrick's Technical College. It is central to the development of our College community.

The Pastoral Care policy applies to all members of the College community and aims to:

- have a formative influence upon the College community while being formulated, reviewed and/or renewed;
- provide a touchstone within which the College community can develop policies and procedures and maintain consistency of decisions, practices and actions related to pastoral care of its students and wider community;
- give expression to the relationships of vocational learning and support which characterise the College's vision, ethos and practice;
- identify intentions and patterns for taking action;
- provide transformative experiences and a connectedness that help individuals to build a caring and hopeful College community.



UNDERPINNINGS

Pastoral Care in St Patrick's Technical College is underpinned by Christian values and social teachings and through the informing principles upon which the College is founded.

At the core of St Patrick's Technical College pastoral action is a deep respect for the innate dignity and uniqueness of the individual.

The student is at the centre of all the activities of the College because the College believes in the importance of nurturing the physical, social, moral and spiritual needs of human beings in a safe learning environment.

The College has the potential to be a positive force in developing a sense of self-worth in our students, of forming living skills and values and developing a spiritual journey as an integrating life principle.

Pastoral Care is based in particular, on the values of care for the individual, hospitality, compassion and forgiveness.

Student needs and our responsibilities

Student needs include:

- to be treated as an individual
- to belong to a family
- to belong to a community
- to be forgiven

Pastoral Care is entrusted to all members of the College community and challenges them to:

- contribute to one another's growth. It endeavours to provide to all the experience of interpersonal relationships of care and support;
- see it as an essential component of their role;
- uphold and sustain policies and practices that foster mutual respect, responsibility and service to the community;
- respect and support diverse family structures and integrate cross-cultural issues.

The Principal enables an environment for learning by providing the space and opportunities for the development of pastoral care.

Teachers / trainers are challenged to see that at the heart of their role is the modelling of right relationships.

Students are challenged to create a community of learning.

Parents are invited to support a climate of learning, care and forgiveness.

Pastoral Care concerns the stewardship of resources to maximise opportunities for the benefit of individuals.

Pastoral Care is about compassion.



PASTORAL CARE ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

St Patrick's Technical College has developed Pastoral Care within its organisational structure to ensure the Pastoral Care needs of students are being met – refer to *Appendix 1*.

The structure has been established to ensure the following criteria can be addressed.

Elements of our pastoral care

- College Ethos
- Interpersonal Relationships
- Behaviour Management
- Teaching and Learning
- Formal Pastoral Care programs
- College / Family partnerships
- Supportive organisational structures
- Support Networks

Curriculum teaching and learning

- Comprehensive, inclusive and integrated approaches to teaching and learning
- Implementation of Pastoral Care programs that address the 'life' needs of students
- Fair and just assessment.

College ethos, environment and organisation

- College vision and mission
- Effective networks of care
- Fostering high quality interpersonal relationships
- Coordinated and supportive organisational structures
- Celebrations and assemblies
- College based Pastoral Care activities

Partnerships and services

- Employers, Industry, Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) and parent partnerships
- Links to Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide and the wider Northern Adelaide community
- Government and Non-Government Schools in the region
- Accessible support services to cater for a range of needs.



OUTCOMES

The success of Pastoral Care is most dependent on the quality of relationships that are forged when members of the College community act in partnership to construct and implement the following:

- visible Pastoral Care Policy;
- pastoral care that truly reflects productive relationships that exist within the College community and the vocational training of its students;
- student centred Pastoral Care program;
- celebration;
- opportunities for each individual to find a niche and vocational focus;
- teaching and training practices that effectively engage individuals in their learning and training;
- educators and trainers who understand the relationship between Pastoral Care, teaching and the wellbeing of student.

RELATED POLICIES

- *1.1 - Ethos and Charter*
- *1.4 - Staff Code of Conduct*
- *1.5 - Sexual Harassment*
- *1.6 - Equal Opportunity*
- *5.3 - Case Management*
- *5.4 - Duty of Care / Health, Safety and Welfare*
- *5.5 - Anti-harassment and Anti-bullying*
- *5.8 - Child Protection*
- *5.11 - Student Code of Conduct*



PASTORAL CARE ORGANISATIONAL CHART

