Brisbane Catholic Education: A Vision for Student Behaviour Support
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We believe that we are called to: Teach Challenge Transform – we educate for a transformed world in communion, by nurturing the gifts and potential of each person, enacting shared leadership, and exercising a preferential option for the poor and marginalised (Vision Statement for Catholic Education in the Archdiocese of Brisbane, 2004).

Brisbane Catholic Education schools are founded on the person of Jesus Christ and enlivened by the Gospel. We are committed to the development of schools that embrace the example of Jesus and the teaching of the Gospel, especially in relation to faith, hope, love, forgiveness, justice, compassion and freedom.

Brisbane Catholic Education schools state the following as their goal:

As a Catholic Christian community we educate all to live the gospel of Jesus Christ as successful, creative and confident, active and informed learners empowered to shape and enrich our world (Brisbane Catholic Education Learning and Teaching Framework, 2012).

Schools demonstrate these aims through

• Practical expression of the Gospel message within and beyond their communities
• Their care for those within the school community, especially those experiencing disadvantage
• The extent to which students experience school as a place of hope and promise for their future.

Our community of schools is committed to the development of the whole person and the development of Catholic schools, which in turn, demonstrate this commitment when they

• Provide caring and safe environments
• Recognise the individuality and dignity of each student and member of the school community
• Foster life-giving relationships within the school community.

Schools then reflect the above through the following:

• The ways in which they foster the dignity, self-esteem and integrity of each person;
• The quality of relationships within the school and the pastoral care of each person;
• Promoting inclusive practices related to race, socio-economic circumstances, culture, gender, religion, physical and cognitive abilities and mental health and wellbeing.
In each case, our support for students is grounded in a faith-centred environment that

- Honours the dignity and uniqueness of students and enhances their formation as disciples of Jesus Christ
- Values the conscientious and collaborative efforts of students, parents and staff involved in the learning process in their school communities
- Communicates our Catholic faith throughout the learning process, through prayer, reflection, connectedness and the celebration of the giftedness of the students and staff in our schools
- Cares for the individuality and sacredness of human life
- Promotes an inclusive community.

Each day we welcome students into our Catholic schools to witness to Jesus’ call to stewardship. Our focus as teachers is to implement effective learning and teaching strategies that are based on an understanding of child development and pedagogy. Our philosophy of inclusion is grounded in certain essential core beliefs about student learning for all students in the Archdiocese of Brisbane. The Brisbane Catholic Education Learning and Teaching Framework holds the following as its beliefs:

- Every learner is created in the image and likeness of God and inspired by the spirit, responds with passion and creativity to life;
- Every learner seeks to find meaning in life and learning and in the Catholic Christian Tradition we find meaning in the person and teachings of Jesus to grow as pilgrim people;
- Every learner is in some respect, like all others, like some others, like no other and therefore we respond creatively, flexibly and with a futures orientation to ensure dignity and justice for all;
- Every learner is a lifelong learner, with a desire to search for truth and do what is right, accountable for choices and responsible for actions;
- Every learner can achieve success in life and learning where diversity is valued and shared wisdom contributes to decision-making that enriches and enlivens our world;
- Every learner brings to the learning experience their own richly diverse life journey to contribute to a community in communion, empowered by the Spirit to be at the service of others.
While support for students has always been the focus of Catholic schools, rapid and complex social changes are creating substantial uncertainty, insecurity and stress for families, the community at large and students in our schools.

Life outside the school gate inevitably affects and influences the individual responses of students within our schools. Figure 1 is a conceptual framework for considering these influences and the relationships between external and internal community factors on behaviour.

Figure 2: Influences on Behaviour in Schools Framework


All students are valued members of our Catholic school communities. We are committed to maximising opportunities to provide the most enabling environments for our students. Priorities of the Brisbane Catholic Education Strategic Renewal Framework 2012-2016 commit us as partners in Catholic education to support the diverse needs of students.

In order to achieve this goal, our schools must provide high-quality student support. A well implemented local school Student Behaviour Support Plan, supported by Brisbane Catholic Education’s Student Behaviour Support Policy and Student Behaviour Support: Guidelines, Regulations and Procedures will, in conjunction, help to develop student and parent confidence in our schools and attract and retain quality, motivated staff.