



St John's Primary School Euroa

Student Discipline Policy

Source of Obligation

The Victorian Registration Standards (s 4.3.1(6)) (CECV Guidelines ref 4.5) require that our policies relating to the discipline of students are based on principles of procedural fairness and must not permit corporal punishment.

Discipline Policy

Every student has the right to a learning environment free from bullying and intimidation and to feel safe and happy at school. They also have the right to be treated fairly and with dignity. Discipline is necessary to ensure the safety and welfare of all our students, teachers and staff and to provide a conducive learning environment.

This Student Discipline Policy is communicated to staff, students, parents and guardians and the School community through the St John's School Website, Enrolment Book & Parent Handbook.

Prohibition of Corporal Punishment

It is our policy that corporal punishment is prohibited.

The use of any corporal punishment by a staff member is strictly prohibited. Any staff member who breaches this rule will be subject to disciplinary proceedings which may include dismissal.

Behaviour Management

St John's School Euroa seeks to develop a culture of positive discipline by setting clear expectations of students and encouraging positive behaviour. Strategies for developing this culture include:

- Clearly setting expectations with respect to student behaviour
- establishing specific teaching and learning programs
- communicating expectations with the wider school community
- acknowledging positive behaviours in a range of ways from informal verbal acknowledgement through to structured merit awards through School Wide Positive Behaviour Strategies In School Program (SWPBIS).
- maintaining records on SiMON with respect to student behaviour.

St John's School Euroa has developed a policy which is consistent with the CEM Policy Pastoral Care of Students which encompasses the above strategies.

Procedural Fairness

Students have a right to procedural fairness in dealings that involve their interests. This includes disciplinary decisions.

The principles of procedural fairness include the right to:

- know what the rules are, and what behaviour is expected of students
- have decisions determined by a reasonable and unbiased person
- know the allegations that have been made, and to respond to them
- be heard before a decision is made
- to have a decision reviewed (but not so as to delay an immediate punishment).

St John's School Euroa is committed to ensuring procedural fairness when disciplining a student.

The Rules and the Expected Standard of Behaviour

Students are expected to abide by the rules of the School, and the directions of teachers and staff.

Consequences

There are a range of consequences that students will face if they breach School rules, or are disobedient. These include:

- Warnings or reprimands (verbal and written)
- time outs
- clean up duties
- cancellation of privileges
- withdrawal from school activities
- lunch time detentions
- after school detentions
- Saturday detentions
- suspension
- expulsion
- exclusion.

A decision to suspend or expel a student may only be made by the Deputy Principal or the Principal.

Procedures for Suspension, Expulsion and Exclusion

St John's School Euroa has developed specific procedures that must be followed when considering the suspension or expulsion of a student.

Individual Behaviour Management Plan

Individual behaviour management plans may be made in certain circumstances.

Behaviour Management Plans will be negotiated between school staff, students and parents/guardians, and will consider the student's:

- age
- developmental needs
- behavioural context.

Desired behaviour/goals of the student will be clearly described. The plan will outline changes required to the learning environment to support the student to modify their behaviour. The School will refer the student to other support available and review, assess, change and modify the plan as needed.

Implementation

This Policy is implemented by:

- staff training and professional development opportunities in behaviour management
- communicating this policy to the School community
- monitoring the effectiveness of the policy
- reviewing and evaluating the policy annually.

This Policy and other behaviour management policies and procedures including steps for managing suspensions and expulsions are communicated to staff, students, guardians, parents and the School community through:

- the Parent Access Module
- St John's School Euroa website
- Enrolment Handbook
- Staff Handbook
- Student Handbook
- announcements in the weekly newsletter.

St John's School Euroa has set up a series of compliance tasks in CompliSpace Assurance, to ensure that key obligations under the Victorian Registration Standards and CECV Guidelines are managed effectively.

Reviewed: March 2021

Next Review: June 2023