MERCY COLLEGE MACKAY

PASTORAL CARE IN SCHOOLS

Policy No.: 2011 / 01

Year Adopted: 2011

POLICY AREA (Pastoral Care in Schools)

PREAMBLE
Mercy College Mackay promotes the dignity of all people. Pastoral Care at Mercy College Mackay should be promoted as a means of encouraging all members of the school community to treat one another with dignity and respect.

RATIONALE
Pastoral Care involves the creation of an environment where the spiritual, social, physical and emotional needs of individuals, groups within the school community and the whole school community are addressed.

VALUES
Central to the ethos of Catholic Education is that all persons are treated with respect and dignity. It is important that Catholic Education displays and models the values of love and justice for all members of the school community.

POLICY STATEMENT
Mercy College Mackay will provide a supportive environment that caters for the needs of all students. This responsibility is shared by all members of the school community.

IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

1. Mercy College Mackay’s Pastoral Care guidelines will flow from the Diocesan policy and the school’s Mission Statement.
2. Guidance will come from the school’s Principal and Leadership Team in consultation with the Pastoral Care Team.
3. Pastoral Care Teams could include: Priests, Chaplains, Campus Ministers and Staff with Positions of Added Responsibility, Members of School/College Administration, Teachers, Parents, Counsellor and Student Council members.
4. Pastoral Care will endeavour to address the needs of the school community (staff, students and parents).
5. Pastoral Care should encourage self-discipline, according to Gospel values, and promote a sense of responsibility appropriate to developmental stages.
6. Mercy College Mackay will establish a mechanism for regular review of the Pastoral Care processes. This would be done by the Equity Committee.
7. Pastoral Care will include liturgical celebrations and when priests are available, the celebration of appropriate Sacraments.

REFLECTION MATERIAL

Kevin Treston Pastoral care for Schools, Brisbane, Creation Enterprises, 1989.
Diocesan Education Council, Diocese of Rockhampton, Pastoral Care in Schools 2011.

Replaces any previous Mercy College Mackay Pastoral Care Policy To be reviewed: Year 2016