

Suspension and Expulsion

Source of Obligation

The Act (s 4.3.1(6)) (CECV Guidelines ref 4.5) requires that our policies relating to the discipline of students are to be 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.

The Student Discipline Policy sets the framework through which Holy Rosary manages student discipline.

Suspension and Expulsion Defined

Suspension or expulsion may occur as a consequence of a serious breach of School rules, or serious disobedience.

A suspension is a temporary removal of a student from all classes that a student would normally attend at school for a set period of time.

Expulsion is the permanent removal of a student from one particular school.

It is our policy that our procedures for the suspension or expulsion of a student are based on the principles of procedural fairness.

This policy sets out the procedures to be followed when making a decision about the suspension or expulsion of a student.

Who May Make a Decision to Suspend or Expel a Student?

Where any teacher or staff member decides that an act or the behaviour of a student may warrant suspension or expulsion the teacher or staff member must refer the matter to the Principal, or an alternative, disinterested (independent and objective) member of the Executive Leadership Team who can make a reasonable and unbiased decision.

In serious circumstances, a student may be summarily suspended, pending a final decision under this policy. In this case, a meeting with the student and the student's parents to review the suspension must be convened as soon as is practicable.

Procedural Fairness - Procedures

Holy Rosary is committed to ensuring procedural fairness when disciplining a student. All decisions about the discipline of a student will be conducted in accordance with our Student Discipline Policy.

Where a decision is being considered to suspend or expel a student, the Principal will:

- write to the student, and the student's parents/carers stating:
 - the reasons that the student is under consideration for being suspended or expelled
 - the relevant rules, policies, standards of behaviour alleged to be breached
 - the relevant allegations said to warrant suspension or expulsion
- allow the student and/or the student's parents/carers to give a response, either in writing or verbally
- allow the student to have a support person of the student's choosing
- arrange a meeting with the student, and the student's parents/carers
- arrange for an interpreter, if one is required
- meet with the student and the student's parents/carers and/or support person
- ensure that such a meeting is recorded in writing.

Suspension and Expulsion Consideration

The Principal, after following the procedures set out in this policy, will make a decision about the facts of the allegations against the student. The Principal will then decide whether to suspend or expel a student based on the following considerations:

- the safety of all students, staff and visitors
- the seriousness of the student's acts
- the response or remorse of the student, if applicable
- the pastoral care and welfare of the student
- the student's prospects for rehabilitation.

Alternatives to Suspension or Expulsion

Despite the fact that a student has been referred for suspension or expulsion, other consequences may be imposed. These are outlined in the Student Discipline Policy.

Suspension and Expulsion – Consequences

A decision under this policy may result in the following consequences:

Short Suspension:

A short suspension may be imposed as a consequence of things such as continued disobedience, or aggressive behaviour.

The student may be suspended from attending school for a period of four (4) school days or less.

Long Suspension:

A long suspension may be imposed as a consequence of things such as physical violence, possession of a weapon, possession of a suspected illegal substance or serious criminal behaviour.

The student may be suspended from attending school for a period of between five (5) to twenty (20) school days.

Expulsion:

A student may be expelled from Holy Rosary. This should be considered as a last resort.

An expelled student will be unenrolled from Holy Rosary and will not be allowed to re-enrol without the permission of the Principal.

A decision to expel a student may only be made after consultation with the Principal.

Notification of Decision

The decision made under this policy will be communicated in writing to the student and the student's parents/carers. The Principal will also attempt to communicate this decision verbally.

The student, and the student's parents/carers must abide by the terms and conditions of the decision.

Register of Suspensions and Expulsions

Holy Rosary keeps a register of suspensions and expulsions on the School SIMON Social Behaviour software.

Appeals

A student may seek a review of a decision made under this policy. All appeals must be made in writing, setting out the grounds of appeal.

An appeal from a decision to suspend a student must be made to the Principal.

An appeal from a decision to expel a student must be made to the School Board, or an appropriate committee of the School Board.

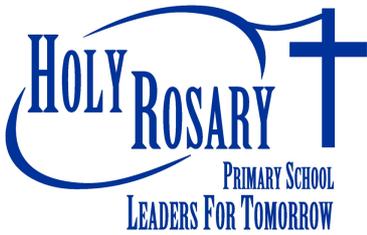
Implementation

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.

Related Policies

- Student Discipline Policy
- School Rules
- Bullying Prevention & Intervention
- Drugs - Illicit (Student Use Of)
- Uniform Policy



Holy Rosary Primary School White Hills

Evaluation & Review

This policy will be reviewed as part of Holy Rosary's overall cyclical review process and should be read in conjunction with the Holy Rosary Child Safe policies.

This policy was ratified by the Holy Rosary Governing Authority in 2020.

APPENDIX 1 – HOLY ROSARY SCHOOL RULES

HOLY ROSARY SCHOOL RULES

At Holy Rosary we...
Respect ourselves
Respect others
Respect the environment

AT HOLY ROSARY WE RESPECT OURSELVES

- At Holy Rosary we are aware of our feelings, behaviour and learning.
- At Holy Rosary we take pride in the presentation of our self and our work.
- At Holy Rosary we have a go and do the best we can.
- At Holy Rosary we respect ourselves by owning our choices.
- At Holy Rosary we are responsible for our own actions and behaviours.
- At Holy Rosary we learn from our mistakes.
- At Holy Rosary we resolve our problems.

AT HOLY ROSARY WE RESPECT OTHERS

- At Holy Rosary we think through our actions and accept responsibility for the consequences.
- At Holy Rosary we are aware of others and acknowledge and celebrate their achievements.
- At Holy Rosary we keep our hands off others and don't use "put-downs".
- At Holy Rosary we use positive language and our manners.
- At Holy Rosary we play fairly and take turns inside and outside.

AT HOLY ROSARY WE RESPECT THE ENVIRONMENT

- At Holy Rosary we clean up after ourselves inside and outside.
- At Holy Rosary we reduce, reuse and recycle.
- At Holy Rosary we look after all our equipment and resources and return them to their rightful places.
- At Holy Rosary we care for our natural environment.