PASTORAL CARE POLICY
(Student Wellbeing)

All Trinity College Colac Policies will be read and developed with reference to the Core Values, Vision and Mission of the College as well as any other relevant College policies

RATIONALE:

The Pastoral Care of Trinity College Colac should enhance students’ wellbeing through their respect for self, others, property and the environment. Living true to the Gospel values allows a response to areas of social responsibility, economic need and cultural diversity within the community. Pastoral Care promotes a deepening of relationships between students, parents, staff and the wider community.

SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT:

“I have come that you may have life and have it to the full”
(John 10:10)

“love one another as I have loved you”
(John 13:34)

DEFINITION:

‘Pastoral Care: The action taken within the educational community by its leaders and community members to promote and enhance wellbeing of the individual of a personal, social, physical, emotional, mental or spiritual nature. Key elements of wellbeing are positive self-regard, respect for others, positive relationships, responsible behaviours and personal resilience.’
(Taken from the Catholic Education Office, Diocese of Ballarat, Pastoral Care Policy).

POLICY STATEMENT:

Trinity College Colac provides a happy, healthy and safe community and promotes a positive school culture where the pastoral care for each student reflects our core values.
**POLICY GUIDELINES:**

**Our Pastoral Care:**

- Promotes a high quality of interpersonal relationships among teachers, students, parents/guardians, canonical administrator and ancillary staff.
- Promotes relationships of trust, co-operation and partnership between the school and family members.
- Promotes respect and sensitivity to diverse cultural values and family structures by the school community.
- Promotes a safe environment for all members of the school community.

**Students:**

- Enabled to recognise their own potential for building acceptance, trust, esteem and friendship amongst their peers.
- Should have the opportunity to value themselves and to experience well being.

**Parents/Guardians:**

- Need to be supportive of the Pastoral Care and wellbeing focus of the school.
- Should communicate openly with teachers regarding the development and wellbeing of their children.

**Staff:**

- Will be known as caring, compassionate adults who take a real interest in the development, growth and wellbeing of their students.
- Will aim at developing self discipline, resilience and responsibility within their students.
- Will encourage a safe, happy, working environment conducive to learning.
- Will maintain the highest level of ‘duty of care’ in line with CEOB guidelines.
- Will aim at providing a comprehensive curriculum responsive to students’ unique needs for growth and fulfilment.

**GUIDELINE INDICATORS:**

**To implement our Pastoral Care Policy we will:**

- Liaise with parents/guardians through information evenings, newsletters, student planners, electronic school based media and communication and phone calls.
- Welcome parents into the school.
- Follow up incidents which occur in classroom/playground and inform parents of same.
- Hold College and Year Level assemblies to acknowledge and reward positive behavior and achievements.
- Acknowledge acts which exemplify the Core Values by nominating students for the Trinity Sprit Awards.
- Adopt the MindMatters framework as a whole school approach to student wellbeing.
- Utilise Restorative Practice strategies when dealing with behaviour/bullying issues.

**Students:**

- Offer students a variety of programs that encourage and promote experiences in positive life skills
- Develop respect for and acceptance and understanding of different cultures through different topics studied in the curriculum.

**Parents/Guardians:**

- Offer parents/guardians opportunities to develop their skills in assisting their children to develop self discipline and self worth.
- Encourage parent involvement in aspects of school life.

**Staff:**

- Be aware of their role in promoting positive student wellbeing.
- Take a personal interest in each child through interaction with the children.
- Implement behaviour management programs within the classroom and school.
- Be alert and aware of the children for whom teachers are responsible, whenever they are on duty and at all times.
- Develop a comprehensive curriculum in line with the National Curriculum as interpreted for Victoria and Religious Education Guidelines (or any other mandated standards) designed to cater for the different ways...
The School Community:
- Will develop effective school-community partnerships with welfare organisations outside school which can be of assistance to those students and families in need.
- Will be responsible for developing appropriate and relevant policies to assist in the implementation of this Pastoral Care Policy.

REFLECTIVE MATERIALS:

Pastoral Care Policy  Diocese of Ballarat (2010)
Trinity College Core Values and Vision and Mission statements.

Board Chairman: Anne Ditty
Ratified: 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2015
Date of next Review: June, 2018