Personal Responsibility Policy

Rationale:
• All students have a right to learn and need to respect the rights of others to learn.
• Positive and responsible student behaviours are essential to the smooth running of the school, to achieve optimal learning opportunities, and to develop a supportive and cooperative school environment.
• That behaviour (and the consequences associated with behaviour) is the result of personal choice.

Aims:
• To build a school environment based on positive behaviour, mutual respect and cooperation where students can develop their potential socially, culturally, and academically.
• To encourage students to respect and support the rights of others in the school community, including their right to learn.
• To nurture the young person’s growth in self-esteem and self-discipline.
• To provide a sequence of consequences for inappropriate behaviour that encourages students to develop a sense of accountability and personal responsibility. This will be based on the philosophy of restorative practices framework.

Implementation:
• The College will develop, through a process of consultation with the school community, a code of student responsibility. It will emphasise positive behaviours, including the benefits of helping and working cooperatively with others, treating others with respect, fairness and courtesy, respecting those in authority, respecting the property of others and the school. It will build on behavioural development and management strategies. These objectives are detailed in the College’s Student Wellbeing Policy (code of conduct, 2016)
• Positive student behavioural achievement will be appropriately recognised.
• The broader school curriculum will include opportunities of learning on resilience, peer pressure, positive choices, bullying, conflict resolution and leadership.
• Students who experience difficulty achieving positive behavioural outcomes will undertake behavioural management programs, generally in the form of individualised behavioural plans that have established agreed-upon goals. These programs/plans will be based on the principles of the restorative practices framework that foster awareness, will involve the student’s participation, and see every serious instance of wrongdoing and conflict as an opportunity for learning.
• Parents/carers will be kept informed and actively encouraged to assist the College in the development of their son’s/daughter’s behavioural performance.
• Consequences for ongoing inappropriate behaviour may include counselling, loss of privileges and possibly suspension. Expulsion will only be for grave and very serious breaches and may include the opportunity for negotiated transfer to another school.

Evaluation:
• The evaluation and review of this policy must include the involvement of the students of the College.

This policy was ratified by the College Executive and Advisory Board in September 2016
This policy is due for review in September 2019

Reference: Student Wellbeing Policy (code of conduct, 2016)