



MISSION

St Francis of Assisi School is a Catholic community and in partnership with families we create opportunities for our students to encounter life in all its personal, religious, civic, ecological and cultural richness.

VALUES

Empowered through our commitment to Franciscan Spirituality, we value:

- Our rich and diverse community
- Relationships grounded in trust and respect
- A commitment to learning
- Collaboration and team work

VISION

At St Francis of Assisi School we create a safe, caring and welcoming environment in which students experience innovative and contemporary learning opportunities. We teach the Catholic tradition in partnership with our Parish and provide an invitation to encounter a love of God.

At St Francis of Assisi School, we acknowledge that we are all made in the image of God. Each person is called to follow Jesus' example and to 'love one another as I have loved you.'

(John 13:34.)

Our words and actions should always uphold the dignity of others and self. Every person has the right to be safe and free from bullying and harassment.

At St Francis of Assisi School, we are committed to a Restorative Approach grounded in our Mission, Values and Vision statements. We provided a restorative environment in partnership with students, staff and the wider community. We provide students with opportunities and experiences that foster their spiritual, physical, emotional, social and intellectual growth as well as their ability to recognise and value safe and positive relationships.

At St Francis of Assisi School, we believe that everyone has the right to feel safe and learn to the best of their ability at all times, therefore we:

- Show respect for the self, others and environment
- Work and play safely and cooperatively
- Provide a place where reconciliation can take place and students can learn from their behavioural choices
- Support the development of responsible and ethical behaviours
- Celebrate positive choices made by students.

The most profound learning occurs when there is a healthy relationship between teacher and student. Restorative Practice assists teachers, students and parents to build, maintain and restore relationships. Restorative Practices will help build capacity to enable students to self regulate behaviour and contributes to the improvement of learning outcomes.

<http://www.restorativepractices.org.au/>

St Francis of Assisi School builds and nurtures respectful relationships using Restorative Practices. The principles of Restorative Justice, respect relationships and encourage personal accountability without blaming others.

Our strategies are designed to be educational and to support students to develop appropriate behaviour choices. They rely on effective communication between all stake holders.

Restorative Justice Questions

- What happened?
- What were you thinking at the time?
- What have you thought about since?
- Who was affected by what you did (and in what way)?
- What do you think you need to do to make things right?
- If you do not follow what you have agreed to, what do you think should happen?

These questions are modified by staff to suit different students and situations. However, the intent and order largely remain the same.



Wellbeing



Our school is a supportive and safe place, which builds self-esteem and enables children to reflect and accept responsibility for the choices they make. To help reflect on choices, St Francis of Assisi School incorporates a number of wellbeing practices and policies with a focus on Restorative Practices. These include:

- Circle Time
- Restorative chats (informal on the spot dialogue)
- Restorative conversations (more formal dialogue with agreements in place)
- Leadership led conversations with a strong restorative approach
- Individual and group social skills programs, i.e. Program Achieve

Peer Mediators

At St Francis of Assisi School, we believe that students can support each other and be role models for one another. The Year 6/7 students take on the role of Peer Mediators. The Peer Mediators role is to support staff on duty with minor issues. The Peer Mediators assist other students to:

- Identify feelings and their source
- Observe, listen and reflect on the feelings of others
- Take responsibility for the choices he/she has made
- Reconcile with others
- Peer Mediators are also able to refer children back to the teacher on duty if required.



Strategies and Responsibilities

At the beginning of the year, all students and classroom teachers will ensure they spend quality time establishing a supportive classroom environment. With all members of the class contributing, they will establish classroom agreements/code of conduct based on our schools values. These expectations will be displayed in the classroom and clearly communicated to all students and families.

Yard Behaviour

When incidents occur in the yard and students do not uphold our school values, these choices are viewed as either minor or serious.

Minor issues; staff on duty or peer mediators may be able to have a quick restorative chat to manage the situation and the dialogue will not take up much time.

When students make inappropriate behaviour decisions that are serious or repeated, the yard duty teacher may ask the student/s to sit out and not play.

Serious and Repeated Incidents

Serious and repeated incidents where patterns of student behaviour persist and consistently demonstrate poor choices will be placed on a behaviour plan and directed to leadership as soon as possible.

Students will be counselled about their behaviour and formal notification will be made to parents. Parents must acknowledge that they have been notified.

Students who have formed a restorative agreement must follow the plan. For students who break the agreement, the consequences outlined will apply. These may include withdrawal/suspension.

RESPONSIBILITIES

All members of the St Francis Of Assisi School community hold responsibilities when supporting behaviour. Developing the personal responsibilities of students involves students, families and staff.

STUDENTS	TEACHER	LEADERSHIP	PARENTS/CAREGIVERS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *To be aware and to take responsibility for their own behaviour and choices *Be active in upholding our school values *Grow in understanding of their own and others behaviour and its impact on relationships and learning *Commit to following a restorative process when behaviours have become disruptive to relationships, learning and/or play 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Develop and foster positive relationships with students and families *Provide all students a consistent and structured social learning program and appropriate pedagogies based on our school's restorative approaches *Communicate promptly with parent/guardians about behaviour concerns *Inform and consult with leadership about individual behaviours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Regularly review the school's Wellbeing Policy *Ensure that new staff, students and their families are aware of the Wellbeing Policy *Seek support from other agencies when required *Documentation – plan, implement, monitor and review individual behaviour plans, restorative agreements in partnership with teachers and families *Support staff in implementing individual behaviour plans and restorative agreements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Support the school in their philosophy towards and management of student wellbeing *Be aware of their own behaviour and its impact on relationships with others in the school community *Commit to supporting the school's restorative processes *Support their children to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~be active and engaged in school life ~grow in understanding of their own and other's behaviour and its impact on relationships and learning *Keep the school informed of health issues, concerns about behaviour or other matters of relevance