Australian Christian College

Behaviour Management

Policy
Staff, students and members of the school community work together to create a positive school culture that is fair and respectful. This policy outlines the culture that is encouraged in the school, the behaviour code expected of students and the consequences of not meeting expectations.

Statement on Corporal Punishment
"Corporal punishment" is defined as any deliberate action taken with the intention of causing physical pain or discomfort.

Australian Christian College prohibits corporal punishment.

Student Rights & Responsibilities
1. Each student has the right to learn.
2. Each student has the right to not be bullied or treated unfairly.
3. Each student makes a choice to respect themselves and respect others.
4. Each student chooses to learn and respect others when they don't agree.
5. Each student chooses to be safe and help others.

Statement on Procedural Fairness and Natural Justice
The college acknowledges that all procedures are to be based on the principles of procedural fairness and natural justice.

The notion of procedural fairness can be identified in the behaviour management procedures through the following mechanisms:
1. The college will maintain a procedural system (such as merit/demerit, card system, etc) that identifies causes and consequences for student behaviour. Procedural systems for behaviour management are outside of the scope of this policy but are available on request.
2. Within the context of this policy, procedural fairness can be identified by noting the application of the hearing rule in the suspension & expulsion process, the process of appeals with access to the School Board, and the process of conducting an investigation.

Responsibilities of the Principal and School Board
1. The Principal of the school is to be present when there is a formal meeting between a parent, student and teacher relating to student behaviour.
2. The School Board will be involved as per the Complaints Management Policy.

Suspension from School
1. Within the context of a school community, it is expected that the majority of issues can be resolved in the classroom or in conference between parents, students and the school.
2. A suspension is viewed by the school to be a serious response to ongoing issues.
3. A suspension is a measure after students continue to ignore their own rights and responsibilities and after at least one meeting between the parent and the school.
4. Suspensions are to be in strictest confidence between the school, the student and the parent of the student.

**Expulsion from School**
1. Within the context of a school community, it is expected that the majority of issues can be resolved in the classroom or in conference between parents, students and the school.
2. An expulsion is viewed by the school to be a measure of last resort.
3. An expulsion is a measure after students continue to ignore their own responsibilities and after at least three meetings between the parent and the school (except in the case of extreme breaches as determined by the Principal in which case there may be less or no meetings).
4. Expulsions are to be in strictest confidence between the school, the student and the parent of the student.

**Appealing an Expulsion**
1. The parent can appeal a student expulsion to the School Board.
2. The School Board will review the following:
3. The incidents recorded in the online student database.
4. The meetings between the school, the parent and the student.
5. The decision of the School Board is final.

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