



# ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PRIMARY SCHOOL, NORLANE

## BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT POLICY

*“ All that happens in the Catholic school, the curriculum, the relationships, the priorities, the aims and objectives, the pastoral care and discipline has the potential to speak of God’s life”.*

(The Distinctive Nature of a Catholic School)

### Rationale:

At St Thomas Aquinas School we believe, that underpinning our learning and teaching philosophy is the significant link between academic achievement and social and emotional wellbeing. Children engage and learn best when there is a positive balance between these elements.

We promote the academic, physical, social, emotional, psychological and spiritual development of our students. Our belief is that students are better prepared for learning when they are healthy, safe and happy. We believe parents have the primary responsibility for teaching their children to behave responsibly with the respect to the rights and needs of others. Teachers have the primary responsibility for encouraging and developing positive behaviours at school. Where the values and expectations are shared, teachers and parents can actively support one another to the benefit of the child. This policy has been collaboratively developed to share the approaches adopted by our school for managing and supporting student behaviour.

We believe that everyone has the right to feel safe and valued and all members of the school community have a responsibility to ensure this happens by supporting the school rules.

### Beliefs and Practice:

As a learning community we:

- value and respect each individual’s uniqueness and the gifts and talents they bring to our school.
- acknowledge that all students have various strengths and learning needs. (For example just as students need support academically, they also need support and understanding of various social and emotional behaviours within the classroom and playground).
- acknowledge that students vary in their ability to manage their own behaviours.
- understand that students will be involved in various incidents throughout their schooling. Many of these incidents are not bullying, but may need addressing by using Restorative Practice techniques and/or the Modified Behaviour Procedures.
- acknowledge that if bullying occurs a set of steps and techniques will be used to promote learning and empower all parties involved using our behaviour management procedures.

*Compassion*

*Respect*

*Service*

*Justice*



#### Rewards for Positive Behaviour:

“Children will be encouraged both by our example and instruction to share with others within the community the Christian values of respect, care, love and forgiveness. **“The Catholic School must develop persons who are inner directed, capable of choosing freely and in conformity to an informed conscience.”** (The Catholic School, Article 31)

If positive behaviour is rewarded often enough, then ideally there will be far less inappropriate behaviour. At St Thomas Aquinas School, our Behaviour Management Policy is based on the belief that students not only require clear guidelines and examples of expected behavior, but also opportunities to be rewarded for displays of positive behaviour.

At St Thomas Aquinas School the use of corporal punishment is not permitted under any circumstance.

#### Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the schools four-year review cycle or earlier as required.

**This Policy established in ..... 2015**

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