

Behaviour Support Policy and Procedures

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Student Engagement Plan, Student Respect and Responsibility Standards, Good Standing Guidelines, the Student ICT User Agreement, and Bullying and Harassment Prevention Policy and Guidelines.

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POLICY STATEMENT AND PURPOSE

Georgiana Molloy Anglican School (GMAS) aims to provide every student with the educational and

pastoral wellbeing support that is needed to learn and maintain positive relationships and behaviours

in a respectful environment that is safe and supportive.

GMAS engages in **Restorative Practice**, which has at its core, a focus on supportive and respectful

connections and behaviour.

SCOPE

The scope of this policy applies to the whole GMAS community. At GMAS a whole-school approach

to Student Behaviour Support is the most effective way of developing a positive school culture.

BACKGROUND

GMAS School Values

As a school community we unite and work to follow these values:

Respect

Accomplishment

Inclusivity

Spirituality

Empathy

Where members of our community hold to these principles the school remains a place in which all

can grow and thrive, attaining to their potential as a whole person, emotionally, socially, physically

and intellectually.

Building positive relationships and maintaining high standards of student behaviour is paramount to

creating a harmonious learning environment for students, staff, and community members. As an

Anglican school we uphold the Christian values and ethics in the way we care for each other in the

school environment and in our speech, behaviour and attitude.

If unexpected student behaviours occur, a restorative practices approach is engaged. Each

individual situation supports students to take responsibility for their behaviour, by acknowledging

what has happened and the people who have been affected by their behaviour and focusing on

repairing the harm that has been done. It encompasses a shift in thinking from blame & punishment

to addressing the impact on others, associated harm done and restoration of relationships, with the

goal of those involved taking responsibility for their behaviour and re-joining their class or social

situation respectfully.

GMAS embeds restorative practices such as

- informal preventative use of language
- classroom procedures and routines
- restorative conversations,
- formal conferences.

the purpose being to build effective positive relationships, prime expected behaviours, resolve conflict, and improve student behaviour. GMAS believes that encouraging positive behaviours is a cooperative effort between all members of our community striving to create a supportive and collaborative school environment.

We follow a restorative continuum to elevate positive student behaviour.

Restorative Practices are designed to build positive relationships, prime expected behaviours, resolve conflict, and improve student behaviour.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Positive Restorative Behaviour Support

Role of the Student

The expectations of student behaviour are outlined in the Student Respect and Responsibility Standards, which was co-created by GMAS students.

We have resolved that as students, we all want to feel:



This document was co-created by GEORGIANA MOLLOY ANGLICAN SCHOOL STUDENTS

Role of the School

- Explicitly teach positive behaviour and expectations.
- Model and promote behaviour that demonstrates respect for all and promotes a positive culture.
- Support the participation and inclusion of all students.
- Provide professional learning to build the capacity of staff to recognise, respond and manage behaviour.
- Report behaviours of a serious nature to the relevant authorities (Western Australia Police, Child Protection authorities).
- Work in partnership with parents and caregivers to support students impacted by behaviours of concern.

Role of parents/carers

- To encourage and support students in their learning.
- To explicitly teach and model positive behaviour and expectations.
- Support their children to develop safe behaviours.
- Supervise and monitor social interactions including online behaviour.
- Communicate openly with the school as an active partner in their child's learning and wellbeing.
- Work in partnership with the school to support positive behavioural change.
- Consider recommendations and engage with external professionals when required.

RESTORATIVE STRATEGIES

Restorative Practice

A process of dealing with inappropriate behaviours of those involved, in a manner that requires them to take responsibility for their actions by acknowledging their choices and the people who have been affected by their behaviour, focusing on repairing the harm that has been done.

Impartiality

Each matter will be considered in a fair and impartial manner. No judgements or assumptions will be made, and no action will be taken until discussions and inquiries are complete. If a complaint is made against a person, their rights will be protected, and they will be given an opportunity to have their side of the story heard.

Confidentiality

As far as is reasonable and safe, matters will remain confidential. The only people who will have access to information about the behaviour will be those responsible for bringing the matter to a reasonable outcome.

Timeliness

Each matter will be finalised within as short a period as possible.

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No Victimisation

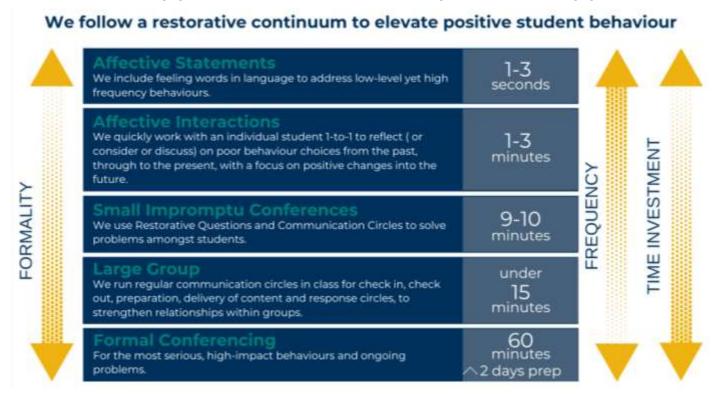
The school will make every reasonable effort to ensure that a person involved in the behaviour support process is not victimised in any way.

Forgiveness

As a school community, we promote and build opportunities for forgiveness to be expressed.

At GMAS we use **affective** language and actions to encourage the acquisition of knowledge, skills and attitudes through emotional engagement. Affective language and actions recognise that emotions play a pivotal role in shaping cognitive processes, memory retention and decision-making.

The GMAS Student Engagement Plan identifies the various strategies which will be engaged with.



The use of **Past**, **Present and Future conversations** will form the basis of many interactions with staff and students to ensure there is a focus on repairing the damage to relationships. **Restorative and Shared Concern Conferences** will be used with staff, parents and students. **Follow-Up Actions** will be linked, in a restorative manner, to the behaviour.

GMAS explicitly forbids the use of any form of child abuse, corporal punishment or other degrading punishment. Please see <u>Appendices</u> for a description of these terms, as defined in the Guide to Registration Standards for Non-Government Schools (2024).

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Reflection*

Regular school Reflection Time provides a formalised session when students are required to participate in reflection, related to their behaviour, and how it impacts others and any changes needed to align their behaviour more closely with the Student Code of Conduct.

Re-engagement Contract*

When a student requires more regular monitoring and feedback, a Re-engagement Contract will be created by Head of House or Assistant Head of Primary in collaboration with the student. These contracts can involve a variety of strategies. This process is overseen by the Head of House or Assistant Head of Primary, and parents are informed when their child is placed on a Re-engagement Contract.

Restorative and Shared Concern Conferences*

Restorative and Shared Concern Conferences are used to discuss deeply the issues at hand. These are held with a Senior Leadership Team member, student and parents/carers.

Good Standing*

All students commence every school year with Good Standing. When a student fails to maintain Student Respect and Responsibility standards, steps within the GMAS Behaviour Support Policy and GMAS Student Engagement Plan are followed, and Good Standing can be revoked (See Appendices, Appendix B).

Suspension*

When the behaviour has caused significant, either an In School Suspension or an Out of School Suspension will be arranged. The length of the suspension will be determined by the appropriate Senior Leader.

School Withdrawal or Expulsion*

When a student no longer follows the values of GMAS and enrolment at the School is no longer viable for all parties. In the event of a student being withdrawn or expelled from GMAS, the Principal will notify the GMAS Chair of School Council of the decision.

GMAS reserves the right to assess each breach of the behaviour expectations on its merits and to refer any incident to the most appropriate level. In the most serious cases, which involve violence or a criminal act, the Principal may deal with students involved in the first instance. Some incidents require more formal procedures to be followed that may include mandatory police notification (e.g. possession of inappropriate illegal materials, weapons or drugs). These cases will be assessed and dealt with directly by the Principal.

GENERAL BEHAVIOUR

GMAS is committed to working with families to establish a restorative culture that discourages unexpected behaviours, as well as bullying, harassment and violence in all forms. The school's focus

is on establishing and maintaining positive relationships. All members of the school community have the right to a safe and supportive learning environment where they can reach their full academic, emotional, physical and spiritual potential.

Poor behaviour choices relate, but are not limited to, breaches of the Student Respect and Responsibility Standards. For example

- Disruptions in class
- Inability to follow instructions
- Disrespect to staff, students or school property
- Possession of items not permitted at school
- Unpermitted use of mobile devices
- Avoidance of class or school
- Inappropriate online interactions

Bullying, harassment, and violence are specific issues that GMAS must identify and address. See Appendices, Appendix D – Bullying and Harassment Prevention Policy and Procedures. GMAS will not tolerate bullying, harassment, or violence, and are committed to following a restorative pathway to prevent harm, incorporating conflict resolution strategies rather than retributive/punitive practices, with the objective of inspiring a feeling of empathy and restorative action on the part of those involved and forgiveness by the person who has been affected.

GMAS will follow restorative strategies in dealing with all forms of bullying, harassment and violence, however, an approach of limited tolerance will be taken, and actions will move through the continuum quickly. Degrees of bullying, harassment and violence need to be considered when GMAS decides its response to an incident. GMAS therefore, reserves the right to assess each situation on its merits and respond using the most appropriate pathway. The Principal reserves the right to modify a pathway response in relation to any incident.

Bullying, harassment and violence can take many forms, including, but not limited to Physical; Psychological/Emotional; Verbal; Non-verbal; Offensive Interactions; Cyber Interactions; Property Damage; Innuendo related to others' characters; Sexual Harassment.

RELATED DOCUMENTATION

Bullying and Harassment Prevention Policy and Procedures

APPENDICES

Appendix A – Behaviour Support Flowchart

Appendix B - Good Standing

Appendix C – Standard 12 Definitions

Appendix D – Bullying and Harassment Prevention Policy and Procedures

Effective Date: 29/07/24

REVISION RECORD

DOCUMENT STATUS

Under Review	☐ Draft for Approval	X Final
Function/Section	Operations	
Policy Compliance Officer	Deputy Principal	
Policy Manager	Principal	
Approval Authority	School Executive	
Next Review Date	July 2027	

DOCUMENT MODIFICATION HISTORY

Version	Date	Summary
1	28/08/18	Draft for feedback
2	04/12/18	Amended version incorporating feedback
3	8/11/19	Minor changes to wording as per revised AISWA guidelines. Other minor edits.
4	Feb 2022	Full review of content
5	17/04/23	Post– Restorative Teaching training review
6	19/6/24	Major review

DOCUMENT APPROVAL

Approved By:	Effective Date:
School Executive Team	25 July 2024

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APPENDIX A



BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT FLOW CHART

EXAMPLES COULD INCLUDE ACTION SEOTA RECORDING CONTACT

Interactions and approaches that are initiated early in interactions.

Managed by: Class Teacher/Home Room teacher/Duty Teacher Not required Relationship building, priming language, affective language, positional strategies

Not required

PARENT

Calling out, interrupting, using indirect

inappropriate language, unkind comments, littering, uniform infringement, late with no explanation, not following an instruction when asked, disrupting the learning

Managed by: Class Teacher/Home Room teacher/Duty

CONVERSATION: 'Affective Statements': use of feeling words to address behaviour. Relationship building approaches.

CONVERSATION with FOLLOW UP ACTION: Teacher initiated choice, low level follow up action, Relationship building approaches.

Yes-Reporting Teacher Using SEQTA Level 1 from drop down menu Include Follow Up Action

Optional, however, early contact is beneficial.

Ongoing breach of Step 1 behaviour, vandalism, theft, purposefully missing lessons, inappropriate conduct, posting inappropriate content online (in line with the Student ICT User Agreement), deliberate and intentional breach of the Student

Managed by: Class Teacher/Home Room teacher/Duty Teacher Ves-Reporting Teacher and Assistant Head Primary/Head of House/Head of Department/Head of School.

CONVERSATION with FOLLOW UP ACTION: Teacher driven Past-Present-Future conversation. Appropriate follow up action Include Follow Up Action for behaviour related to incident and may involve support from All coordinators included. Assistant Head Primary/Head of Year/Head of Department/Head of School. Relationship building approaches.

and/or Leader Using SEQTA Level 2 from drop down menu

Essential

Behaviour that has not altered after prior intervention in Step 1 and 2, using direct inappropriate language, using racial or gender inappropriate language, vaping, use of alcohol, conduct that puts self and others at risk, serious breach of the Student Code of Conduct or Bullying Policy and the Student ICT User

Managed by: Assistant Head Primary/Head of House REMOVAL: from situation/environment to a safe space if applicable.

CONVERSATION with FOLLOW UP ACTION: Assistant Head Primary/Head of House/Head of Department (where appropriate) Include Follow Up Action and reporting teacher. Past-Present-Future conversation and Restorative/Shared Concern Conferences*, Follow up action related to the harm caused and relationship damaged. Relationship building approaches.

May result in Reflection Time* and/or Good Standing* review, and/or Suspension* and/or School Withdrawal or Expulsion*. A Re-engagement Contract* may be implemented.

Yes - Assistant Head Primary/Head of Year SEQTA Level 3 from drop down menu

All coordinators included

Essential Face-to-face meeting required Referral to external support agencies if appropriate

LEVEL 4

Serious level complex and unsafe behaviour that is severe and significant.

Behaviour that puts others at risk of ongoing injury or harm including actual or threats of physical violence, behaviour that threatens the reputation of the School, significant breach of the Student Code of Conduct, Prevention of Bullying Policy and the Student ICT User Agreement.

Managed by: Head of School and/or Deputy Principal and/or

CONVERSATION: Affective Interactions moving along the Restorative/Shared Concern Conferences*. Follow up action will relate to the harm caused and relationship damaged using restorative practices. Behaviours monitored and communicated All coordinators included to all stakeholders.

May result in Reflection Time* and/or Good Standing review*, and/or Suspension* and/or School Withdrawal or Expulsion*. A Re-engagement Contract* may be implemented.

Yes - Reporting Teacher and Head School/Deputy Principal drop down menu Include Follow Up Action

Essential Face-to-face meeting required. Referral to external support agencies if appropriate



GMAS GOOD STANDING GUIDELINES

OUR GMAS VALUES ARE

RESPECT ACCOMPLISHMENT INCLUSIVITY SPIRITUALITY EMPATHY

As a School community we unite and work to follow these values

GOOD STANDING

All students at Georgiana Molloy Anglican School commence every school year with Good Standing.

Good Standing is maintained by following the Student Respect and Responsibility Standards, ensuring the school environment is:

- Safe
- Challenging and Encouraging
- Inclusive
- Respectful
- · Wellbeing Focused
- Proud

These are desirable behaviours which assist students to manage and maintain their Good Standing.

LOSS OF GOOD STANDING

When a student fails to maintain the Student Respect and Responsibility Standards, steps within the GMAS Behaviour Support Policy and GMAS Student Engagement Plan are followed, and Good Standing can be revoked.

CONSEQUENCES OF LOSING GOOD STANDING

Students who lose their Good Standing forgo their privileges, including but not limited to attending and participating in -

- · GMAS co-curricular activities
- · School social functions
- · GMAS representation activities
- · School excursions
- IGNITE Program including School camps
- · GMAS Intrastate, Interstate and International tours
- · School leadership positions
- · Right to have a car on campus
- Wearing a GMAS Leavers Jacket

Whenever possible, the consequences of losing Good Standing will be directly linked to the specific inappropriate behaviours. Students who lose their Good Standing will be provided with ample opportunities to regain it. This process will be clearly communicated to both students and parents/carers. Reflective conversations will help students identify an appropriate path forward.



APPENDIX C

Guide to Registration Standards for Non-Government Schools (2024)

Standard 12: Management of students' behaviour

- 12.1 All students receive positive guidance and encouragement towards acceptable behaviour and are given opportunities to interact and develop respectful and positive relationships with each other and with staff members and volunteers.
- 12.2 The school explicitly forbids the use of any form of <u>child abuse_corporal punishment</u> or other <u>degrading punishment</u> as defined and provides clear guidance to all members of the school community about what forms of behaviour management, discipline or punishment are permitted.
- 12.3 The administration of permitted forms of behaviour management, discipline or punishment conforms to the <u>rules of procedural fairness</u> and non-discrimination.

Definitions

Child abuse

Four forms of child abuse are covered by WA law and are defined by the Department of Communities:

- Physical abuse occurs when a child is severely and/or persistently hurt or injured by an adult or caregiver.
- Sexual abuse occurs when a child is exposed to, or involved in, sexual activity that is inappropriate to the child's age and developmental level, and includes sexual behaviour in circumstances where:
 - (a) the child is the subject of bribery, coercion, a threat, exploitation or violence;
 - (b) the child has less power than another person involved in the behaviour; or
 - (c) there is a significant disparity in the developmental function or maturity of the child and another person involved in the behaviour.
- 3. Emotional abuse includes:
 - (a) psychological abuse; and
 - (b) being exposed to an act of family and domestic violence.
- 4. Neglect is when children do not receive adequate food or shelter, medical treatment, supervision, care or nurturance to such an extent that their development is damaged or they are injured. Neglect may be acute, episodic or chronic.

Corporal punishment

Any punishment in which physical force is used and intended to cause some degree of pain or discomfort, however light; typically involving hitting the child with the hand or with an implement; can also include, for example, forcing the child to stay in an uncomfortable position. It does not include the use of reasonable physical restraint to protect the child or others from harm [UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, General Comment No. 8 (2006)].

Degrading punishment

Any punishment which is incompatible with respect for human dignity, including corporal punishment and non-physical punishment which belittles, humiliates, denigrates, scapegoats, threatens, scares or ridicules the child [UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, General Comment No. 8 (2006)].

Emotional abuse

Emotional abuse occurs when an adult harms a child's development by repeatedly treating and speaking to a child in ways that damage the child's ability to feel and express their feelings.

Psychological abuse

Repeatedly treating and speaking to a child in ways that damage the child's perceptions, memory, self-esteem, moral development and intelligence. It is a form of emotional abuse.

Rules of procedural fairness

These rules require:

- (a) a hearing appropriate to the circumstances;
- (b) lack of bias;
- (c) evidence to support a decision; and
- (d) inquiry into matters in dispute.

Director General's considerations

Policies and procedures

A school's student behaviour policies and procedures must be sufficiently clear and certain, as well as disseminated to all students, to ensure that students can be confident in knowing what behaviour will breach the student code of conduct (or equivalent), and what consequences may result. While group punishments, where a whole group is punished for the wrongdoing of one or more group members, are not explicitly banned, they will rarely be consistent with providing positive guidance or procedural fairness.

Department of Education (2023) *Guide to the registration standards and other requirements for non-government schools effective 1 January 2024*. Department of Education WA. Available at: https://www.education.wa.edu.au/dl/8zk94nr (Accessed: 19 June 2024).