



# St Joseph's School

PO Box 19  
WYNDHAM WA 6740

Phone: (08) 9161 1021  
Fax: (08) 9161 1247

Created: 2008  
Reviewed: 2014  
Due for review: 2016

## POSITIVE PLAYGROUND POLICY

### School Vision

In the spirit of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, St Joseph's School Wyndham is a welcoming and supportive Catholic Community. We challenge our community members to discover God in themselves and in others, and to live by Gospel values. We are committed to enabling personal growth and academic excellence. We respect cultural diversity and acknowledge and share our differences.

### School Mission

Recognition of the cultural diversity of St Joseph's School in Wyndham permeates all teaching and learning through mutual sharing of the development of meaningful relationships.

We develop relationships by:

- Bearing witness to Jesus' message by the way we live, the way we relate to each other, and participation in parish/school life.
- Providing a challenging and comprehensive curriculum that through best practise, promotes a respect of learning and a positive view of self as a lifelong learner for every individual.
- Ensuring that the needs of the whole person are met - spiritually, socially, emotionally, academically and physically.
- Demonstrating our support through open communication, pastoral care and service.
- Committing to continuously building partnerships with the community to encourage regular attendance and engaged learners.

### Values and Beliefs

- We believe that the parents are the first educators of their children.
- We will always personally do our best to meet the needs of our students.
- We will support all staff and students to be their best.
- We will be honest and positive in dealing with all community members.

# A POSITIVE PLAYGROUND

At St Joseph's School, we expect students to do the right thing.  
We expect students to have respect for themselves and for others.

We expect students to STOP, THINK and DO.

We expect that staff are on duty on time.

We expect that staff are vigilant on duty.

We expect that wherever possible, duty staff sort the problem out,  
so that it does not go back into the classroom.

- Students will cooperate with all adults at our school.
- Students will wait for their turn and are polite at the canteen.
- Students will share playground equipment.
- Students will ask others to join in our games.
- Older students are friendly to younger students.
- Students do not interfere in others' activities.
- Students will not name-call or tease.
- Students will not push, hit, kick or hurt other children.

## **WE KNOW THE RULES AND WE FOLLOW THEM:**

- No students are to be at the front of the school.
- No swinging on the poles in the undercroft.
- No students are to run or play near the Kindy-Pre-Primary area.
- No balls in the undercroft area during eating time.
- No playing in or around the toilet area.

## **STUDENTS MUST NEVER LEAVE THE SCHOOL GROUNDS WITHOUT AN ADULT**

## **WE KNOW WHAT HAPPENS IF WE DON'T FOLLOW THE RULES:**

1. The teacher or TA will talk to us and help us solve the problem.  
We will always get a warning and a chance to make things right.
2. We will have some "time out" from the other children – this will help us calm down and cool down.
3. We will have a meeting with the Principal to solve the problem.  
Our parents will be called to help solve the situation.

# **WE KNOW OUR TEACHERS AND TEACHING ASSISTANTS CARE ABOUT US.**

## **OUR TEACHERS ALWAYS:**

- Listen to how we feel.
- Speak to us in a friendly way.
- Help us try and solve our problems.

## **FOLLOWING UP ON SERIOUS ISSUES:**

After an incident that cannot be solved on the playground with the staff on duty, the child involved will be taken through a Problem Solving Conference. This conference will be with the child and the Pastoral Care Officer. The Principal will be involved if necessary.

## **THE GUIDELINES FOR PROBLEM SOLVING CONFERENCES WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:**

### Meet privately with the student.

The student involved will meet with Pastoral Care Officer and Principal if necessary and an appropriate TA. (It may be more appropriate to involve a TA from a different area of the school with whom the child already has a strong relationship. These meetings will be confidential and take no more than 15 minutes.

### Show empathy and concern.

Through words and attitude, we will let children know we are concerned about them and their behaviour.

### Question the student to find out why there is a problem.

We should not assume we know why a student is misbehaving. There will be gentle enquiring about the problem. The student will be listened to without interruption.

### Determine what we can do to help.

There may be simple steps we can take to prevent a repeat performance.

### Determine how the student can improve his/her behaviour.

We will discuss with the child what he or she can do differently in the future that will enable him/her to handle a problem more effectively. We will state our own expectations about how a student is to behave. We will make it very clear to all children that we are very serious about not allowing disruptive behaviour to continue.

### Disarm the student's criticism.

If a child is confrontational, we will ask him/her to focus on his/her own behaviour. Our care for this student does not outweigh our care for other students and staff in the playground who have a right to feel safe and not be teased, disrespected or bullied.

Agree on a course of action.

We will combine our input with the student's input and agree upon a course of action to improve the situation – we will record this agreement with the child for future reference.

End positively.

We will end on a positive note – eg. "We are making progress. I know tomorrow will be better."

For children about whom we are particularly concerned, we will create individual behaviour contracts in consultation with the child's teacher and TA.