



ST BERNARD'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL UPPER MT GRAVATT

St Bernard's Catholic school, founded by the Sisters of St Joseph, shares in the educational mission of the church as part of St Bernard's Parish

ATTENDANCE POLICY

STATEMENT

St Bernard's recognises that every day of attendance in school contributes towards a student's learning and that maximising school attendance enhances academic outcomes. In our Mission statement enunciates, St Bernard's "works in partnership with families, staff and the parish community" to encourage and support attendance by all students.

RATIONALE

Our school Mission Statement emphasizes a commitment to Catholic Christian values of which the dignity of a person is paramount. Promotion of that value through student attendance at school is an essential element of the educational mission of the Church and, consequently, the mission of our school.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

St Bernard's promotes learning as life-long, life-giving and engaging the whole person. The school utilises a Visible Learning approach that develops a Growth Mindset which promotes a positive approach to all teaching and learning activities. Attendance within a supportive environment within a dynamic, Christ-centred community provides opportunities for engagement and success.

St Bernard's Catholic School recognises the role of parents/caregivers and families as the primary educators of their children. The school works in partnership with parents/caregivers and families to share the responsibility to nurture the development of each student and to provide an authentic experience of Catholic community. In partnership with the parish, the school is committed to providing high quality inclusive schooling as a visible expression of the mission of the parish.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

St Bernard's Catholic Primary School and Staff will:

- Provide a positive school culture which is welcoming and inclusive and which engages students in their learning
- Encourages home-school partnerships to assist families to support their child's attendance at school
- Keep records of student's attendance and respond to incidences and trends
- Identify family and situational circumstances which may impact on student attendance and require support
- Establish procedures to identify any issues which impact on student attendance.

Parents/caregivers will:

- Contact the absentee line to inform the school of a student's absence
- Communicate to staff any situations/issues which impact on student attendance in order for a support plan to be developed.

The school's Attendance Policy acknowledges State and Federal Government legislative requirements for school attendance (Every Day Counts Initiative).

Families are defined as parents, guardians and caregivers who enact a primary guardian role.

Endorsement

The St Bernard's Catholic School Board, in conjunction with the school staff, and parent and parish community, endorses this policy. November, 2015.

OUR VISION

Learning is child-centred, where children are prepared as life-long learners to meet challenges as compassionate Christian members of our community.

OUR MISSION

- To develop and nurture an environment where children learn about themselves, their world and God:
- By working in partnership with families, staff and the parish community
 - By valuing the diversity of all members of our community
 - By experiencing and living a Christian life in the Catholic faith.