



SPOTSWOOD COLLEGE

RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT POLICY

Rationale:

Respectful relationships are at the core of learning and behavior management. All members of our school community have the right to be treated with respect and to feel physically and emotionally safe, within a positive and effective learning environment.

Guidelines:

1) Spotswood College is a Restorative Justice School.

“A ‘just’ school is a place where victims and wrongdoers and their respective communities of care are active participants in processes that ensure equal justice and fairness” (Thorsborne & Vinegrad¹, 2002, p8).

2) A Restorative school seeks to establish conditions of fairness which allow an opportunity:

- tell our story, to be heard and let others understand why we did what we did or how we have been harmed.
- to right the wrongs, to fix things and make amends for mistakes.
- for students, teachers, and parents to have their needs addressed (ie. treated with respect, to have problems resolved with their Mana intact...)

3) Students will be acknowledged for positive learning and relationship behaviours. Rewards are acknowledged within an E TŪ framework (Education, Taking Part, Unity) and are linked to the 5 key competencies from New Zealand curriculum (Thinking, Language Symbols and Texts, Participating, Managing Self, Relating to Others).

4) Departments have their own documented procedures to follow the Restorative process for managing student behaviour.

5) Continued staff PD and support is essential for a Restorative system to be successful.

6) The school’s relationship values, and vision are incorporated into our E TŪ framework, which seeks to teach and reward all positive behaviours for learning, and successful social relationships.

¹ Thorsborne, M. & Vinegrad, D. 2002, Restorative practices in schools: rethinking behavior management.

Outcome:

The continued integration of Restorative Practices across the school community, will lead to more respectful relationships, between Staff, Staff and Students, and Students. Resolving of issues in this way will have meaningful long term benefits and relationships will be enhanced. This will make for a safe and more positive school environment which will lead to improved educational outcomes, and our vision of developing young people of good character, with the skills and knowledge to contribute to our 21st Century Global Village.

Approval:

When the Board approved this Policy it agreed that no variations of this Policy or amendments to it could be made, except with the majority approval of the Board.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 24 March, 2014.

Signed on behalf of, and with the authority of the Board

_____ on _____ (Date)
Board Chairperson
Due for Review: March, 2017

Reviewed Date: _____ Signed for B.O.T. _____