

SECTION 6 : ADMINISTRATION

6.5 CODE OF ETHICS FOR BOARD MEMBERS

RATIONALE

Board members' capacity to effectively contribute to the operation of the Board in policy, planning and decision making matters in the context of providing guidance to an MSC school will be enhanced through the adoption of a Code of Ethics consistent with the MSC Ethos. The need for a Code of Ethics rests on the gospel values of stewardship, fairness and justice.

POLICY

The Board will develop and adopt a Code of Ethics consistent with the MSC Ethos.

APPLICATION

1. Board members recognise that Daramalan College forms an integral part of the teaching mission of the Catholic Church in Canberra. Because the Board operates under the authority of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, it is expected that members will become more knowledgeable about the MSC ethos as contained in the Constitution of the College.
2. Members should ensure that all Board decisions are consistent with the ethos of the College as a Catholic and MSC institution.
3. Members will recognise that the work of the Board is primarily concerned with governance and policy, whereas management is primarily the responsibility of the Principal and Staff of the College.
4. Members will respect the confidentiality of Board discussions and maintain loyalty to Board decisions even though they might not personally be in full agreement with a final decision.
5. Members will keep a clear separation between Board and parental responsibilities if they have a student attending the College, and likewise between Board and personal business interests if Board decisions might bring them pecuniary benefit.
6. Members understand that they do not represent any particular interest group connected with the College, and that the Principal is not responsible to individual members of the Board but only to the Board as a whole.
7. Members will familiarise themselves with their obligations under the Constitution of the College, common law and Corporations Act, and act in accordance therewith.
8. Members will come to meetings well-prepared by reading appropriate documentation in advance, and by completing requested tasks through committee work and reports.
9. Members should not hesitate to ask questions so that they can be well informed on issues which affect the welfare of the College, and at the same time they should be alert to alternate solutions to solve issues.

10. Only the Chair can speak on behalf of the Board.

Reviewed and re-approved October 20, 2015