



ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE

PEACE THROUGH JUSTICE

PARTNERSHIPS OF EXCELLENCE – A CORE TOWARDS MAXIMIZING LEARNING

*Students enrolled at St Joseph's College are challenged to enter into a partnership of Learning Excellence.
Parents/Caregivers are asked to commit to being active partners with College staff in the education of their student(s).
Staff of the College are dedicated to the provision of highest quality learning experiences and to continuing professional learning.*

An Apostolic Work of the Tweed Heads Catholic Parish of St Joseph's, the College, working together with its primary feeder schools of St James (Banora Point), St Joseph's (Tweed Heads) and St Anthony's (Kingscliff), is a family initiated partnership to provide the highest quality faith learning environment for its young people. As your family becomes associated with St Joseph's College, we will commence a partnership together, characterised as follows:

The College and its staff will:

- Offer an environment of spiritual reflection and Catholic formation, in which every person is encouraged to encounter their life journey and think about themselves as a person.
- Provide learning experiences and pathways to prepare students for their future life roles.
- Keep respectful and right relationships as central to all its activities.
- Provide a place in which all are listened to, feel safe and valued.
- Expect high – achievable personal standards and expectations in all that students undertake.
- Be inspired by College Core Values as a basis for interacting with students, parents and one another.
- Take personal responsibility to become excellent contemporary teachers who undertake ongoing professional learning and who enrich the educational climate of the College for all.
- Act accountably and foster family centred partnerships and build local community educational links.

Students you are asked to:

- Commit to the Catholic/Christian ethos of the College through prayer and openness to God, reflection, service, building peace through just actions and behaving mercifully towards yourself and others.
(This means joining into and leading prayers/liturgy, attending retreat days, being involved in service activities, stopping and thinking)
- Take active responsibility for your learning by committing to doing your personal best, participating fully in programs of learning including learning in teams, while respecting the rights of others to learn without interference.
(This means learning about how to learn, being attentive in class, being a team member and completing a program of home study)
- Participate fully in the wider non-class scheduled and co-curricula learning activities of the College.
(This will mean attending all special days and events of importance to the ethos of St Joseph's and staying back sometimes after school)
- Ensure all relationships are respectful, and do whatever is necessary to restore any damage done.
(This means relating positively to others, not gossiping or repeating harmful stories, excluding or fighting and being willing to say sorry)
- Care for our environments, at school, home and in our local community.
- Face consequences of actions, and use mistakes as an opportunity to learn about yourself and to improve
- Follow College rules, procedures and observe uniform and grooming requirements.
(See Student Handbook. This also means wearing the uniform correctly at all times, and hair cuts/jewellery to follow College requirements.)

Parents you are asked to:

- Courageously take up the advocacy role you have for your son or daughter and their education by communicating fully with the College in order to maintain a quality working relationship.
(This means telling us what is important to you, asking questions when not sure, contacting us to resolve issues to your satisfaction, understanding how the College operates and telling us occasional good news stories!)
- Share the important knowledge you know about your son or daughter to assist us to better meet their needs.
(This means telling us about the special qualities of your student, letting us know when they are sad or not coping, or informing us when you are pleased with your son's/daughter's progress)
- Understand and engage in the educational opportunities offered to students and support them to achieve their commitments listed above. We are happy to unpack the mysteries of secondary education in plain language!
(This means reading information about subjects and their requirements and attending parent dialogue/information sessions)
- Take responsibility to keep informed of time lines, happenings and returning communications promptly.
(This means reading communications, checking websites or other sources and tracking student progress/participation)
- Support the values, processes and procedures of the College in partnership together so as to be more effective in teaching students about meeting expectations and persisting.
(This means talking up the value of processes, self discipline and persistence both in private and in public)
- Find small practical ways to show interest and commitment to your student's education at the College by visiting!
(This means being interested in and talking regularly with your student about their progress at school. It may also mean being present at school in one of the following possible ways – attending parent teacher meetings/evenings, helping at the Canteen, attending a Parent Forum meeting, coming to watch a performance put on by your student (sport, cultural or academic), serving at a function or coming to monthly Youth Mass.)

