Rationale
At St Brendan’s Catholic Primary School everyone should be treated respectfully, every person needs to feel safe and secure and students need an environment that supports their learning, personal growth and positive self-esteem.

Purpose
To establish what is expected with regard to student behavior, and to state how the school will respond to student misbehaviour.

To ensure that St Brendan’s is a place where:-
- Everyone feels safe, positive and cared for.
- Rights and responsibilities are known, respected and protected.
- Self-discipline and a capacity to accept responsibility for one’s own action is nurtured.
- There are always clear expectations for student behaviour and how the school responds to student misbehaviour.

Implementation

Expectations
St Brendan’s sets the following expectations that underpin student behaviour in all school activities.

Expectations of Students
- Be respectful and protect the safety and well-being of self and others through words and actions.
- Display appropriate learning behaviour.
- Respect the property of self and others.
- Follow the directions of staff and other supervisors.
- Play safely (in allocated areas).
- Abide by school uniform policy.

Corporal Punishment
Under no circumstances is corporal punishment to be administered or tolerated. Any physical intimidation or handling of a child by staff members is unacceptable.

Restraint of Students
With regards to restraints of students, the school will comply with Regulation 15 of the Education and Training Reform Regulations 2007 which states: “A member of the staff of a Government school may take any reasonable action that is immediately required to restrain a student of the school from acts or behaviour dangerous to the member of staff, the student or any other person.

The regulation authorises ‘reasonable’ action which is ‘immediately’ required to ‘restrain’ a student. In less serious cases, the reasonable action would involve a warning or instruction to the student not to proceed. In more serious cases where a person faces an imminent threat or injury due to the student, the reasonable action could involve the physical restraint of the student.

The object of the restraint is to avert the danger to some person. It should therefore be measured (i.e. reasonable in the circumstances) and removed once the danger has passed.

Serious misbehaviour must be reported to the Principal or Deputy Principal immediately.

Behaviours that constitute serious misbehaviour include, but are not limited to the following:
- Direct verbal or physical abuse
- Bullying
- Deliberate physical damage to property
- Non-compliance or refusal to follow a direct instruction by a member of staff
- Repeated disruption to student learning and the classroom

**Responding to misbehaviour and breaking the rules**

**Stage 1**
If the problem does not constitute to serious misbehaviour, the individual teacher can choose an appropriate reprimand such as:
- Take time for a 1 to 1 interview with the child to discuss the behaviour
- Give a verbal warning or reprimand
- Exclude the child from the equipment or game
- Ask the child to repeat the behaviour correctly
- Ask child to apologise
- Work not completed due to misbehaviour to be completed in child’s own time

**Stage 2**
For severe offences such as physical violence or continued misbehaviour in the classroom the child is sent to the Principal and exclusion from class arranged. Parents will be notified by phone and a meeting arranged if required.
For severe offences such as physical violence in the playground, the child will be removed from the yard. Parents will be notified by phone and a meeting arranged if required. The incident will be recorded in the Playground Behaviour Book.

For most children the sanctions, as outlined above will provide an adequate deterrent to misbehaviour. For children with behavioural difficulties, individual contracts may be necessary and on-going monitoring of their progress in consultation with parents and specialist personnel.

**Stage 3**
For more serious consequences for extreme behaviour, the policy of the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria.

**Evaluation**
This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's five year review cycle or as required.

**Ratification**
This policy was last ratified by December 2015.