

Mary MacKillop Catholic School Board



Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare

Rationale

Dignity, safety and well being of people are central to the Church's teaching. Mary MacKillop Catholic School acknowledges this and recognises that it is obligated under the Queensland Workplace Health and Safety Act 1995 to ensure the health and safety of each of its workers at work. Additionally, it is obligated to ensure other persons are not exposed to risks to their health and safety arising out of the conduct of School business or undertaking.

The purpose of this policy is to assist in developing, promoting and maintaining a safe and healthy working and learning environment, and to provide a basis on which a sound occupational health and safety management system (OHSMS) is built. Through such properly established and implemented systems, students, staff, contractors, and other persons with a legal right to be on School premises, will comply with the requirements of the Queensland Workplace Health and Safety Act 1995.

Definition: Occupational health and safety management system (OHSMS).

That part of the overall management system which includes organisational structure, planning activities, responsibilities, practices, procedures, processes and resources for developing, implementing, achieving, reviewing and maintaining the OH&S policy, and so managing the risks associated with the business of the organisation.

AS/NZS 4801 – 2001

Values

Care and concern for the health, safety and welfare of people using school facilities.

Policy Statement

Mary MacKillop Catholic School will endeavour to ensure the health, safety and welfare of all employees, students, and other persons who are legally present on school premises, and develop, promote, and maintain a safe and healthy working environment in which the risk of injury or illness for persons coming on to the premises is minimised.

To achieve these aims Mary MacKillop Catholic School will develop and implement an OHSMS based on preventive risk management principles. This school is committed to both improving safety culture and continuous improvement of health and safety programs. As part of OHSMS implementation, responsibilities and accountability of the various personnel will be clearly defined, consultative mechanisms established, measurable objectives and targets set, and adequate training provided in collaboration with the Toowoomba Catholic Education Office.

Mary MacKillop Catholic School will endeavour to adequately resource OHSMS implementation through a budget allocation integrated with other management functions. Monitoring and review of OHS issues will be undertaken through an annual audit, using an electronic audit tool.

Consequences

- Compliance with all workplace health and safety statutory requirements, Queensland Codes of Practice, Advisory Standards, and relevant Australian Standards as a minimum
- Quality OHSMS implementation
- Improved OHS outcomes including a safer and healthier environment, and an improved safety culture.
- Health and safety performance data collection and analysis
- The health and safety policy being available as required to regulatory authorities suppliers, contactors customers and those visiting the school.
- Various moral, ethical and legal obligations met.