



**St Columba**  
College

A joint Anglican and Catholic College

# Student Life Procedure

# PREAMBLE

At St Columba College, we believe in the importance of an engaging, kinetic, and diverse range of Student Life Activities: Clubs, Sports, and Performing Arts. We view these activities as valuable opportunities for students to build strong school connections with peers, cultivate teamwork skills, participate in school, remain active, and develop new abilities and skills.

The Student Life Procedure at St Columba College is designed to uphold the Christian ethos of St Columba College, foster a safe environment for all students, encourage moral and ethical decision-making, and promote the tenants of Positive Education. This procedure is founded on the principle of striving for excellence in all we do. To ensure awareness and adherence to these principles, the College rules are prominently displayed throughout the school, and teachers actively engage students in understanding and following them.

Student Life at St Columba College is centred around providing students with enriching experiences beyond the traditional classroom setting. We aim to offer pathways to success, career development, and lifelong interests. Moreover, these activities offer students opportunities to forge meaningful relationships with their peers and learn valuable lessons in positive interactions. These objectives align the College Strategic Plan: *Boundless Possibilities* 2024 - 2028.

Student Life at St Columba College is charactered in creating and maintaining positive and impactful experiences for students.

## POSITIVE STUDENT LIFE EXPERIENCES

A positive Student Life experience is of paramount importance as it significantly impacts a student's overall wellbeing, academic performance, and future success. Numerous studies have shown that when students are immersed in a positive educational environment, they demonstrate increased engagement, motivation, and achievement (Durlak et al., 2011). Positive education, which focuses on fostering strengths, resilience, and wellbeing alongside traditional academic learning, has been found to improve students' emotional and social skills, leading to higher academic performance and better mental health outcomes (Seligman et al., 2009). The staff involved as coaches, facilitators, and instructors are expected to embody Positive Coaching approaches when working with young people. At St Columba College, our whole school approach to Positive Education aspires to create an inclusive community where students feel connected, focuses on their strengths, and enhances their engagement with learning.

Within the context of the St Columba Student Life program, coaching refers to any individual who serves as an instructor, facilitator, or lead support. The Positive Coaching Model employed at our College is a holistic approach that emphasises the development

of students as individuals engaged in Student Life Activities. This approach encompasses their physical, mental, and social wellbeing. It places great emphasis on positive reinforcement, personal growth, and adopting a growth mindset, thereby creating a supportive and empowering learning environment for all participants.

The Positive Coaching Model of using T.E.A, Talent (T), Effort (E), Attitude (A), can be particularly effective in Student Life sports, clubs, and activities, where creating a supportive and inclusive environment is essential for student success. This approach focuses on developing participants' skills, knowledge, and self-confidence by providing a positive and empowering learning environment.

By focusing on teaching and empowering student participation, staff engaged in the Student Life program can help students develop the skills and knowledge they need to succeed, while also building their self-confidence and motivation. Applying the Positive Coaching Model in Student Life activities can create a more inclusive and positive experience for students, helping them develop essential life skills such as teamwork, leadership, and resilience.

# KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

RESPONSIBILITIES	COMMITMENT
Parental Support	We encourage parents/guardians to support their children's participation in Student Life Activities and adhere to all school policies. It is an expectation that all parents will be supportive and respectful and engage in the spirit of good sportsmanship. Parents are required to provide transportation and encourage their children to maintain good behaviour and academic eligibility. In addition, students will be expected return their uniforms by the following day to the College for laundering.
Positive School Community	It is an expectation that all students will exhibit positive behaviours at school to participate. Behaviours of concern in any aspect of school life could face immediate removal from the Student Life Program. In keeping the College's Student Responsibility Policy, this may include suspension from the Student Life Activity, depending on the severity of the incident as per the Behaviours of Concern Policy.
Talent, Effort, and Attitude	As part of our commitment to fostering well-rounded students, we emphasise the importance of T.E.A. values (Talent, Effort, and Attitude) within the Student Life Program. These values serve as guiding principles for all participants, promoting a culture of excellence, dedication, and positive mindset. We encourage students to showcase their talents, put forth their best effort, and maintain a positive attitude in all aspects of their involvement in Student Life Activities. By embracing T.E.A. values, students will not only enhance their individual growth but also contribute to a supportive and thriving community.
Suitable effort and attitude to be exhibited	We expect all students to maintain and display appropriate behaviours during games, activities, performances, and practices. This includes respecting facilitators, coaches, officials, opposing teams, as well as exhibiting self-control and positive attitudes. Any student who does not display appropriate positive effort or attitude, may be excluded or removed from the Student Life Activity. Student selection for the Student Life Activity is outlined in the Player Position Document given to participants at the start of the year.
Academic Eligibility	In addition to exhibiting appropriate conduct, students must maintain academic eligibility to participate in Student Life Activities. Any student who does not meet academic eligibility, or is flagged with outstanding Academic Concerns, may not be allowed to participate in Student Life Activities. Participation eligibility is outlined in the Player Position Document given to participants at the start of the season.

By implementing these policies, we aim to create a safe and positive environment for all students participating in after-school sports, clubs and activities. We believe that these policies will help students develop a sense of responsibility, accountability, and teamwork, and will also promote good behaviour both on and off the field.

This document should be read in conjunction with:

- Strategic Plan – *Boundless Possibilities*
- Student Life – Player Position Document
- Student Responsibility Policy
- Behaviour of Concern Policy



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