Pastoral Care Policy

(i) **Purpose:**
The Pastoral Care policy guides all forms of care at Salesian College, Chadstone. The purpose of this policy is to provide an approach, which will inform all actions that involve relationships between staff, students and parents. It provides a framework for the deliberations of the Student Services Team, forms the foundation of the policies on Anti-Bullying and Sexual Harassment and has links to the College Code of Behaviour.

(ii) **Principles:**
Salesian College is a Catholic School in the care of the Salesians of St John Bosco and committed lay staff. As such we believe that:

1. The teachings of Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church and the tradition of St John Bosco must guide all pastoral endeavours.
2. Salesian College must be welcoming and affirming of the worth and dignity of each person.
3. Pastoral Care is expressed through a commitment to what each person is and can become.
4. Pastoral Care is experienced through interpersonal contacts where an atmosphere of love and respect is maintained.
5. Each individual should feel they belong to a community and have maximum opportunity for spiritual, personal, academic and social growth.
6. Sound Teaching Practice is a key element in effective Pastoral Care.
7. Pastoral care will be experienced when reason, religion, kindness and justice are characteristics of all aspects of College life.

(iii) **Expectations:**
To enhance Pastoral Care, Salesian College will:

1. Enhance structures so that relationships between staff, students and their families are respected.
2. Emphasise the roles of the Rector, Principal and Religious Education Coordinator in promoting effective Pastoral Care.
3. Develop structures within the College that promote effective communication.
4. Foster homeroom structures that maximise meaningful contact between staff, students and their families, thereby enhancing the well-being of each person.
5. Emphasise the role of the Homeroom Teacher as the person who has primary care for the students in their charge.
6. Encourage all people to exercise genuine responsibility for each other.
7. Provide regular opportunities for prayer and liturgy, particularly the Eucharist and Reconciliation.
8. Provide formation for staff in areas that relate to Pastoral Care.
9. Provide opportunities for staff to interact on both a social and professional level to enhance staff morale.

(iv) **Review:**
This policy will be reviewed from time to time as required.