Evangelisation

RATIONALE:
All set policies, processes and practices, which guide day-to-day life at St Joseph’s embody the evangelising spirit of our Vision Statement which is:
We at St Joseph’s Primary School Queens Park are a faith based community which strives to recognise and respond to the image of Christ in us all, as we grow through work and prayer.

DEFINITIONS
Evangelisation is the process through which the church cooperates today with God’s act of self-communication calling human beings to conversion and to faith in Jesus Christ. St Joseph’s school community strives to be a faith community committed to evangelisation.

PRINCIPLES
The purpose of evangelisation is the interior change as the church evangelises when she seeks to convert both the personal and collective consciences of people, the activities in which they engage and the lives and concrete milieu which are theirs.
As part of our vocation, the Staff of St Joseph’s has considered how they can plan for this.
As a school community, we need to do all that we can to promote openness to the Christian message in our society. Additionally, we need to challenge influences that turn people from the Gospel and promote spiritual and other genuinely human values in the school community.
We at St Joseph’s will strive to be a Faith Community committed to evangelisation. Thus through this influence, forming and changing people from within so that students, staff and parents are respected and where relationships with others are nourished by God.

PROCEDURES
The following procedures reflect the attributes of God:
. Welcoming students and parents
. Listening and being supportive of students and parents respecting them
. Being honest and open with students, parents and colleagues
. Reporting on progress honestly to parents and students
. Teaching programs which provide opportunities for all to succeed
. Making provision for support programs and extension programs
. Offering a broad curriculum to enable students to develop a wide range of talents
. Fairly and collaboratively applying the Behaviour Management and Bullying Policies
Teaching the Religious education program and indeed all curriculum areas well
Supporting all children and families and particularly those in split families
Particular support in times of hardship (unemployment, illness, death) for students, parents and colleagues
Forgiving challenging members of the community
Engendering trust from all sectors of the community
Interacting positively with others
Giving due recognition to all in our community.
Helping all in our community to feel safe
Accepting the responsibility of duty of care - excursions, sick children
Providing a variety of ways of affirming students e.g. awards, incentives, etc.
Working collaboratively for positive outcomes for students
Making an effort to connect with others and build a staff community.
Nurturing members of the community in a variety of ways
Showing generosity of spirit throughout the life of the community

RELIGIOUS VALUES WITHIN OUR SCHOOL

Prayer is an essential part of school life - students are taught to pray.
Regular Staff Prayer for staff to support further formation in personal faith.
Regular Class Masses and Paraliturgies are part of school life.
Important times in the liturgical year are celebrated.
Religious Education program is central to our curriculum - has an influence on all other areas.
Sacramental Programs are a focus for all members of the community.
Parish Priest is a respected, active member of our community.
There is always some spiritual dimension to school assembly.
Christian Living awards acknowledge Christian qualities in action within the school.
All in the community are encouraged to be like Jesus.
Strong commitment by all to support in prayer and action those less fortunate e.g. Mission Fundraising

Staff PD Opportunities: In order that Evangelisation is ongoing at St Joseph’s Queens Park, the staff are given several opportunities to attend various Professional Development in services at the Catholic Education Office. These in services help with the Faith formation of the staff. Some staff are helped theoretically and use the knowledge towards their study component. We as a School also organise R.E. Professional Development days during the year to help staff with the Evangelisation process.
MORAL VALUES WITHIN OUR SCHOOL

. Honesty and openness.
. Care and compassion for others.
. Respect dignity and worth of others - acceptance and tolerance.
. Forgiveness
. Integrity
. Loyalty
. Self-Respect
. Responsibility
. Trust
. Understanding
. Fidelity
. Commitment

WAYS STUDENTS ARE BEING OFFERED PRIMARY PROCLAMATION AND INITIATORY CATECHESIS

Primary Proclamation:
Raising students’ awareness of Creation
. Appreciating creation
. Recycling/care for the environment
. Go outside and enjoy the day.
. Choosing themes
. New babies coming into the classroom
. Naming new babies
. The value of human life

Raising students’ awareness of deeper human heart yearnings
. Honour certificates
. Christian Living Awards
. Being compassionate
. Mission Fundraising
. Saint Vincent De Paul collections
. Friendship Awards
. No put downs
. Looking after someone who is sick
. Buddy programme
. Encourage looking after lonely children
. Affirm actions of child
. The value of human life
. Discuss social justice issues
. Always encourage children to tell the truth and reward it
. Not make up stories about others
. Respect for each individuals
. Fair play in the playground

Helping children become aware of the hope for salvation.
. Interaction with each other and teaching
. Guest Speakers
. Every day is a new day- Reconciliation
. Dealing with death of family members/pets
. Special intentions
. Behaviour management-chance to redeem yourself
. Prayer

INITIATORY CATECHESIS

Creed
. Christmas Activities
. Easter Activities
. Easter Play
. Lenten Prayer Assemblies
. Classroom Activities
. Mass Preparation
. RE Programme
. Special Feast Days
. Grandparents Day
. Fundraising for special missions/disaster areas etc

Sacraments
. Link of Sacraments with life
. Masses/Paraliturgies
. Teaching about the Sacraments
. Baptism
. Reconciliation
. Eucharist
. Confirmation

Prayer
. Formal, informal and spontaneous
. Liturgical music and dance
. Prayer buddies
. Music

Life in Christ
. Participate in community events
. Interaction with parents
. Parents encouraged to attend school functions/days/events/evenings
. Value each and every person in all aspects. Sports/Singing etc
. Teach health and social topics
. Praying for peace/recognising the peace we have in Australia
. Teach human sexuality and the meaning of love. What marriage is and means.
. Encourage modesty in children and to develop their own values.
. Children must show respect for their own sex type and others
. The value of human life
. Discuss respect for other people’s property
. Discuss social justice issues
. Fair play in the playground
. Always encourage children to tell the truth and reward it
. Not make up stories about others
. Respect for each individual
. Teach that others sometimes have what we want

Other
. Priests visits
. Assemblies