Diocese of Toowoomba

St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School Chinchilla Board Policy

Critical Incidents Policy

Rationale
Natural forces and tragic circumstances are generally beyond our control. For this reason, it is not possible to predict the type of Critical Incident which might destabilise a Catholic School. A general response can and should, however be identified by each school.

A ‘Critical incident’ is defined as an event which causes significant disruption to individuals, relationships and operations within an organisation. Such an incident may create extreme risk and a situation where staff, students and parents fell unsafe, vulnerable and under stress.

Values
All responses to critical incidents should reflect the values held by St Joseph’s school community. These values focus on community and incorporate love, compassion, respect, forgiveness, empathy, faith, courage, hope and justice.

Policy Statement
St Joseph’s Primary School recognises the importance of having a critical incident plan to be implemented in response to any critical event.

Consequences
Co-ordination and compliance with ‘Critical Incident Plan Checklist and Policy’ as approved by the Catholic Education Board:

- ensure all administrative and teaching staff are aware of the procedures, duties and roles of various school and other staff.
- Individual rights be recognised at all stages of policy implementation;
- Notification and in-service of staff on the procedures;
- Designation of a place to act as a co-ordination centre.
- Appropriate debriefing mechanisms are in place.

Associated Documents
1. St Joseph’s Primary School Fire and Evacuation Plan
2. Critical Incident Management Plan

Date of Issue: April, 2016
Date of Review: April, 2019

Mrs Kylie Hutton
Chairperson

Mr Aaron Wells
Principal