

ST BEDE'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE NOISE POLICY



APPLICABLE TO	Staff, students and parents
DOCUMENT OWNER	Principal
APPROVAL DATE	17 November 2017
APPROVED BY	Management Committee
SCHOOL ACTIONS	School Policy – Staff, students and parents are to ensure practices are consistent with this policy.
LAST REVIEW DATE/S	13 November 2017
NEXT REVIEW DATE	13 November 2019
RELATED DOCUMENTS	TBA

PURPOSE

Noise in schools is unavoidable and at times desirable. Excessive or sustained noise however, can be aggravating and detrimental to teaching and learning and may cause hearing loss and injury. Thus, the College aims to manage noise effectively, and to provide an environment that is pleasant, safe and conducive to quality teaching and learning.

AIMS

- Provide a safe environment for students.
- Promote a commitment to resolving differences through non-physical ways, such as restorative justice.
- Give meaning and expression to the College's commitment to the Gospel values of love, truth, justice and compassion.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all staff, with an expectation of full support from all staff, students and parents.

IMPLEMENTATION

Noise will be monitored at the school as part of the school's regular Work Health and Safety workplace inspections. All staff and students will be made aware of the effects of noise on themselves and others.

Noise issues that cause aggravation or that interfere with teaching and learning and/or are considered to be a safety concern, are to be brought to the attention of the Principal or Assistant Principal.

Areas of the school that have the potential to produce excessive noise (e.g. TAS and Music areas) will undergo noise monitoring and if required have modifications including:

- The elimination where possible of practices that produce excessive noise.
- The substitution of noisy practices for less noisy alternatives.
- The modification or redesign of curriculum or equipment that produce excessive noise.
- The isolation or enclosure of equipment that generate excessive noise.
- Timetable refinements that eliminate clashes of noisy/quiet adjoining classes.

All staff and students will be provided with appropriate high quality and effective hearing protection where required. All staff members exposed to long term noise may have their hearing tested in accordance with Work Health and Safety (Noise) regulations if necessary. Where possible, grounds activities such as works projects and grass mowing near classrooms will be restricted to out of school hours.

Building contractors, when on site, will be asked to manage the effects of noise where possible. When unavoidable, exam times should be spared and out of hours work proposed.