

PART TIME WORK

Scope: This policy applies to St Patrick's College ('the College') Mackay conducted by Catholic Education, Diocese of Rockhampton (referred to as Catholic Education in the document).

1. POLICY STATEMENT

The College will support and provide advice to students and families in their decisions about part time work considering the varied demands of Senior Schooling.

2. DESCRIPTION

The College recognises that whilst they are full time students, part time work is a significant part of the life of many students. The College recognises the potential that exists for students to derive many benefits from part time work and also the need to be aware of possible difficulties.

Part time work can lead to:

- Skill acquisition related to the curriculum;
- Growth of maturity and responsibility;
- Opportunities for post school employment;
- Contribution to family finances.

The College also recognises that there are potential problems associated with part time work including:

- Tension between academic, co-curricular, leisure and employment priorities;
- Excessive value being placed on material rewards for employment;
- Exploitation of students by employers;
- Giving up long term goals for short term financial gains.

3. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

Advice could take some of the following forms and other issues to be considered include:

- Students' pursuit of knowledge and learning in their College studies is a primary value at the College;
- Part time work may complement a student's studies;
- Part time work can contribute significantly to a person's dignity, self-worth and place in society;
- In the work place, students can develop trust, confidence, responsibility and growth and learn the value of loyalty, teamwork and being able to meet a specific standard;
- Communication concerning possible problems;
- Advice concerning optimal working hours depending on academic demands and the extra-curricular involvement of the student;
- Feedback to students and families about students being negatively affected by part time work;
- Discussion concerning the prioritisation of activities;
- Communication with employers about general and specific concerns about the effect of part time work on students.

Some School-based Apprenticeships / Traineeships require certain hours of work to be completed, which may require negotiated time between school and work.

4. REFLECTION MATERIAL

VET: *Where we are at and where we are going* (Ian Fyfe, Queensland Studies Authority)

[Australian Government Fair Work Ombudsman](#)

[Queensland Government Department of Justice and Attorney-General](#)