Buildings and Grounds Policy

Rationale
This Buildings and Grounds Policy highlights the importance of maintaining the optimum condition of the school’s facilities so as to maximize their utility, viability and safety and to emphasize the importance of pride in appearance of a student’s surroundings.

Values
The Policy gives expression to the values of stewardship, responsibility and self-esteem.

Policy Statement
St. Stephen’s Primary School will maintain the standard of repair of the buildings and grounds at the highest condition and level of safety that the financial and physical resources permit.

Consequences
As a consequence of this policy:

- A high standard of maintenance of the school’s facilities will enable the students and staff to maximize the educational opportunities that the school can provide in a safe environment.
- Buildings and grounds in good condition will promote a positive image within the school and wider community.
- Thorough planning for short and long term expenditure will be required.
- A Building and Grounds Committee (the Committee) will be formed to draft a Buildings and Grounds Strategic Plan (the Plan).
- The Committee will comprise the Principal, members of the Parish, members of the School Board and other members of the school community as required.
- The Plan will be reviewed periodically by the Committee and be consistent with the instructions of the Catholic Education Office and policies of the Diocese of Toowoomba, St. Stephen’s Parish and the School Board.
- Workplace Health and Safety Issues will be paramount in all decisions undertaken.

Guidelines
- Rights and responsibilities of all members of the school community will be communicated.
- All members of the school community will endeavour to provide exemplary role models.
- A uniform approach to discipline, emphasising positive reinforcement, consistent and realistic expectations and appropriate consequences for behaviour choices will be implemented.
- Opportunities to develop responsible participation in decision-making will be encouraged.
- Self-esteem building opportunities will be afforded.
- Open communicative attitudes will be encouraged.
- The support and involvement of parents will be fostered.
- Professional support and advice may be accessed for difficult situations.
- Appropriate records will be maintained.
- The Director of Toowoomba Catholic Education Office may be referred to for guidance and direction in cases where this policy is not being accepted and all other venues for improvement have failed.