



Made In The Image of God (MITIOG) Human Sexuality Education Program for Catholic Schools Policy

CONTEXT STATEMENT

At Samaritan College we believe that each person is made in the image and likeness of God and we are each deserving of the utmost human dignity and honour. We believe that sexuality is a gift from God through which we can live out our vocation to love. Thus, human sexuality education is an essential aspect of a holistic Catholic education. Human sexuality education encompasses all aspects of sexuality – physical, emotional, social and moral. It communicates Catholic Church beliefs about the human person and human sexuality.

UNDERLYING ASSUMPTIONS, PHILOSOPHY & RATIONALE

We at Samaritan College acknowledge:

- Parents and caregivers are the primary educators in providing human sexuality education for their children;
- The role of the Catholic school / College is to support and work in partnership with parents / caregivers to assist and complement their efforts / foundation;
- That parents / caregivers have rights, responsibilities and choices with regard to the *Being Sexual* Strand of the program.

PURPOSES / AIMS

Through the application of this policy, Samaritan College will:

- Ensure the delivery of the human sexuality education program, Made in the Image of God, remains consistent with Catholic Church teaching.

GUIDELINES & PROCEDURE

In support of this policy Samaritan College will:

- Establish an Overview Committee consisting of parent representatives, Co-principals, Assistant Principal in Religious Identity and Mission (APRIM), Religious Education Co-ordinators (RECs), Parish and Community representatives;
- Review and evaluate the program and procedures on an annual basis;
- Provide information about the program and its content through various mediums, including newsletters, information sessions and parent meetings;
- Ensure the guidelines are accessible to staff and appropriate guidelines are made available to parents and students through the school website and other means.

The Co-Principals will:

- Be members of the Overview Committee responsible for the review and evaluation of the program and procedures;
- Provide support for APRIM/RECs in the implementation and ongoing evaluation / review of the Made in the Image of God program;
- Make provisions for resources which promote Catholic Church values to assist staff in teaching the program;
- Ensure that staff have had the training as provided by CESA (in-servicing);
- Make support resources available for parents;
- Be available to discuss any concerns raised by parents / caregivers and staff in relation to the program.

The Staff will:

- Ensure they understand the College policy on Human Sexuality Education Program;
- Attend regular in-service in the program;
- Develop teaching units consistent with relevant Key Ideas and Outcomes outlined in the scope and sequence plan;
- Provide opportunities for parents / caregivers to be involved in the teaching and learning processes provided;
- Be available to discuss any concerns raised by parents / caregivers in relation to the program;
- Exercise discretion and respect towards students not participating in the *Being Sexual* Strand.

The Students will:

- Participate in the Made in the Image of God program as supported by their parents / caregivers;
- Respect and support the participative rights of other students.

The Parents/Caregivers will:

- Support a positive climate of learning consistent with Gospel values;
- Work in partnership with the College and staff;
- Follow the College’s designated procedures with regard to any concerns about the program;
- Respond to opportunities to provide feedback on the program.

The College Board will:

- Support the Made In the Image of God Human Sexuality Education Program for Catholic Schools;
- Participate in the development, implementation and review of this policy.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- Samaritan College Online Staff Handbook
- Samaritan College [Behaviour Education and Personal Responsibility Policy](#)
- [Made in the Image of God Program Guidelines 2010 Edition R-6 and 7-12](#)
- [Crossways Religious Education Guidelines for Catholic Schools Revised April 2009](#)
- [Samaritan College Website](#)
- Student Enrolment Information

ADMINISTRATION

This policy will be reviewed triennially by the College, unless otherwise required.

Signed:	Co-Principal
.....	Co-Principal
.....	Chair of College Board
Date:	Ratified and Implemented

Review Date: Term 3..... 2018