Intervention

If a student persists in choosing to go the RTC the next stage of the process involves parents being notified and further referral requires intervention by the Pastoral Coordinators or Administration.

How Does RTP Help Our School?

- RTP ensures that the real purpose of teaching and learning in our classrooms can proceed without persistent interruption.
- RTP assists students to make better choices and to accept responsibility for their behaviour.
- RTP allows teachers and students to relate to each other respectfully when disruptive incidents occur.
- RTP helps students to learn important life skills of compromise, negotiation and conflict resolution.

Marymount College is a Catholic educational community committed to promoting lifelong and life-giving learning for students within a supportive school environment.

We embrace the person and vision of Jesus Christ by ensuring gospel values are reflected in all aspects of College life.
The Responsible Thinking Process

The Responsible Thinking Process (RTP) provides the framework for the behaviour management policy of Marymount College.

The aim of the process is to achieve disruption free classrooms and safe school grounds.

RTP has one basic rule, which is:

“No one has the right to violate the rights of others.”

In our classrooms this means the teacher’s right to teach and a student’s right to learn cannot be disturbed by the actions of others.

In the playground this means every student’s right to feel safe and free from harassment cannot be threatened by others.

In our school community this means all people, including students, who work in, or who support our school, have the right to be treated respectfully.

RTP emphasizes that we are each responsible for our own behaviour.

How Does the Process Work?

When a disruptive incident occurs, students at Marymount College will first be reminded of the rule and given a choice of where they want to be—either in the classroom or playground following the accepted rules or working in the RTC (Responsible Thinking Classroom).

If, after this reminder, there is a further disruption or breach of rules, the student loses the right to be in the classroom or playground and has chosen by his/her behaviour to go the RTC.

The process depends on the teacher respectfully asking the RT questions and the student outlining the choices.

What are the Rules?

The rules that apply in all circumstances in our school are:

- BRING THE RIGHT THING
- DO THE RIGHT THING
- SAY THE RIGHT THING
- SHOW RESPECT AND USE GOOD MANNERS

These rules are based on the general principle that we all—

In this way we will not infringe on the rights of others.

How is RTP Used?

When a disruption or breach of the rules occurs in the classroom or in the grounds, the teacher will ask the following sequence of questions in a calm, respectful tone.

- What are you doing? (student answers)
- What should you be doing? (student answers)
- What will happen if you disrupt again? (answer)

If there is a further disruption or if the student refuses to answer the questions, the teacher will say:

“I see you have chosen to go to the RTC.

In using the RTP the teacher asks the student to outline his/her own choices or options. The teacher does not tell the student what to do. The student is then responsible for his/her own behaviour and the consequences that follow.

What Happens in the RTC?

The student works under supervision and is required to address the behaviour that was occurring in class or in the playground.

The student is assisted by RTC staff to develop a plan to resolve any classroom conflict and to avoid further similar disruptions.

The student is then required to negotiate re-entry to the class on the basis of this plan with the teacher. Students are responsible for completing classwork missed whilst in the RTC.

The student does not go to the RTC as punishment, but as a consequence of behaviour choices. RTC staff will treat all students with respect and provide any assistance they may require in resolving the problem.

How do Students Re-enter the class?

The following describes how we are educating our students in the negotiation process. Teachers follow these procedures when students approach them to discuss their plans for reentry to class.

Negotiation

If we have a disagreement with, or hurt others in some way, it is necessary to negotiate a solution to the problem.

When two parties negotiate, there are some important steps for each to follow. These are:

1. ADMIT to any mistake or wrongdoing.
2. ACKNOWLEDGE the other person’s feelings.
3. EXPLAIN your view of the problem.
4. LISTEN to the other person’s point of view.
5. AGREE on a solution or plan.