

# DAMAGE

## POLICY

### **Rationale:**

Damage to school property is often avoidable, drains the school of finances and provides an unsightly and potentially dangerous environment in which to work and learn. Consequently, our school seeks to minimise damage, and to manage damage as effectively as possible

### **Aims:**

To provide an environment that is free of damaged property.

To eliminate the need to direct limited resources into the replacement or repair of damaged property which could otherwise have been avoided.

### **Implementation:**

- Some damage to school property through incidents such as extreme weather events may be unavoidable.
- However, considerable potential also exists for the damage of school property through carelessness, foolishness, neglect, deliberate behaviour and other avoidable actions. Our school considers deliberate damage to be a very serious matter.
- Sensible and enforceable school rules will be developed, and communicated to all students, staff, parents and visitors as appropriate regarding the protection of school property.
- All staff members are required to consistently enforce the school rules, and students and visitors are expected to comply with them.
- All damage to school property must be made safe (eg: broken windows), reported to maintenance staff and recorded in the maintenance register so that it may be properly repaired.
- Damage that appears to be deliberate, or as a result of the breaking of a school rule, must be reported to the appropriate sub-school leader.
- After appropriate investigation, a recommendation to the principal will be made from the sub-school level as to whether or not a warning or more serious sanctions consistent with the school's Code of Conduct are to be applied to students identified as having caused the damage.
- The principal must be consulted before actions are taken, particularly if suspension from school is the recommended course of action.
- The school principal will communicate damage to school property by students to their parents, and invitations to parents to compensate the school for costs incurred by means of payment or other appropriate recompense will be considered.
- The police will be contacted by the principal if he/she forms the opinion that the circumstances warrant such an action.
- This policy to be read in conjunction with the school's '*Vandalism*' and '*Graffiti*' policies.

### **Evaluation:**

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council on....

**February 2019**