



Operational Policy 19 School Clubs and Support Groups Policy

At Miramar Christian School, we encourage the formation of clubs. Clubs can provide a platform for students, teachers, and parents to engage in activities aligned with our mission, vision, and broader Christian values. To ensure the embodiment and promotion of these values within our clubs, we have outlined the following guidelines.

Definition and limitations of a school club

For the purpose of this policy, a school club shall be an approved student organisation that provides a platform and place for students with shared interests or passions to come together and engage in collaborative activities. The club only exists in the school environmental context. Club activities cannot operate independently of school, off school grounds, outside school hours or permissions, or outside these guidelines.

No club has the permission to use the school name in association with any endeavour that operates outside the terms contained in these guidelines.

1. Purpose and Alignment

- a) A club must have a clearly defined Charter that demonstrates how it will align with the school's Christian values and beliefs.

2. Approving the Charter

- a) Individuals or groups intending to initiate a club must submit a written proposal to the School's senior leadership team along with the proposed Charter.

3. Staff or Parent Sponsorship

- a) Every club must have a staff or parent sponsor who supports the club's purpose and ensures that its activities are consistent with the Charter,
- b) The sponsor must participate in meetings and activities on a regular basis,
- c) If the sponsor is not a teacher, the sponsor must pass a Police Vet check before attending meetings and activities.

4. External Partnerships

- a) Clubs may collaborate with external organisations or invite guest speakers, provided that such partnerships align with our Christian character and the Assistant Principal/Deputy has reviewed and approved any external partnerships or speakers before the club confirms them.

5. Funding and resources

- a) Clubs must operate on a cashless basis and may not directly receive cash or cash equivalent donations,
- b) Clubs may collect and use non-cash resources and equipment as donations from members or the community.

6. The Charter

The charter should cover:

- Name and Purpose of the club:
 1. Select a name that aligns with the club's purpose and is in keeping with school values,
 2. Clearly define the purpose of the club, emphasising its objectives,
 3. Confirm that the club's purpose and operation will be consistent with the school's Statement of Faith and Integration Agreement [available at the end of these guidelines].
- Club Membership:
 1. Establish eligibility criteria for membership, such as age ranges or alignment with stated interests. Ensure criteria are free of discrimination,
 2. Specify that membership is open to students who will respect and uphold both the schools and the club's values.
- Club Leadership:
 1. Describe the process for selection club leaders, whether through elections or appointments, and how that process will work,
 2. Specify that leaders should agree to uphold the core values of the school and club.
- General Activities and Events:
 1. Outline the club's planned activities and events, including meetings, community service, guest speakers, and any social gatherings,
 2. Demonstrate how the club might contribute to its members spiritual growth through offering these activities,
 3. Demonstrate how the club will actively ensure general activities are in keeping with the Christian character of the school.
- Individual Code of Conduct:
 1. Establish a code of conduct for members that reflects school values and prohibits harassment, discrimination, and bullying,
 2. Articulate how you will encourage kindness and peaceful conflict resolution among members.
- Relationship with the School:
 1. State how you will recognise and understand the school's authority and commitment to its mission and values,
 2. Discuss how you will maintain transparent communication with school leadership and seek guidance when necessary,
 3. Show how your club will make the school a better place for students.
- Accountability and Evaluation:
 1. Outline a way to evaluate the club's activities, effectiveness, and adherence to its purpose and values,
 2. State how leaders will adopt feedback and suggestions from members and the school leadership,
 3. Indicate how the club will take the opportunity to assess its impact on members and the wider school community,
 4. Provide a brief written report of the club's activities at the end of each Term to the Assistant/Deputy Principal.
- Amendments:
 1. Define the process for amending the charter, ensuring changes align with the club's purpose and values,
 2. Require majority approval or a specific decision-making process for amendments,
 3. Indicate that any agreed amendments must still be ratified by the Senior Leadership Team.

- Dissolution:

1. Outline conditions under which the club may dissolve, such as insufficient membership or changes in school policies,
2. Specify steps to be taken in the event of dissolution, such as resource or fund distribution.

These guidelines aim to ensure that all clubs at our School authentically embody and uphold our unique Christian character. By faithfully following these guidelines, we can encourage an environment where students, teachers, and parents actively participate in activities that align with our Christian Character and further the development.



Signed:

On behalf of, and with the authority of the School Board on

Date: 25th June 2024

Presiding Member: Peter Wilding
(Name)

Next review date: July 2027