

# PRIVACY POLICY



This Privacy Policy applies to Red Bend Catholic College.

The Privacy Amendment (Private Sector) Act 2000 came into effect on 21 December 2001. The Act regulates the way private sector organisations collect, use, keep, secure and disclose personal information.

Red Bend Catholic College is bound by the National Privacy Principles (NPP's). The College is committed to upholding these principles and complying with the Privacy Amendment (Private Sector) Act 2000.

## Your privacy is important

This statement outlines the procedures and process (in keeping with the NPP's) used by Red Bend Catholic College in implementation of the privacy policy and how the College uses and manages personal information provided to, or collected by, it.

The College may, from time to time, review and update this Privacy Policy to take account of new laws and technology, changes to College operations and practices and to make sure it remains appropriate to the changing College environment.

## What kind of personal information does the College collect and how does the College collect it?

The type of information the College collects and holds includes (but is not limited to) personal information, including sensitive information, about:

- ◆ Pupils and parents and/or parents (guardians) before, during and after the course of a pupil's enrolment at the College;
- ◆ Job applicants, staff members, volunteers and contractors; and
- ◆ Other people who come into contact with the College.

**Personal Information you provide:** The College will generally collect personal information held about an individual by way of forms filled out by parents or pupils, face-to-face meetings and interviews, and telephone calls. On occasions people other than parents and pupils provide personal information.

**Personal Information provided by other people:** In some circumstances the College may be provided with personal information about an individual from a third party, for example a report provided by a medical professional or a reference from another school.

**Exception in relation to employee records:** Under the Privacy Act the National Privacy Principles do not apply to an employee record. As a result, this Privacy Policy does not apply to the College's treatment of an employee record, where the treatment is directly related to a current or former employment relationship between the College and employee.

## **How will the College use the personal information you provide?**

The College will use personal information it collects from you for the primary purpose of collection, and for such other secondary purposes that are related to the primary purpose of collection and reasonably expected, or to which you have consented.

***Pupils and Parents:*** In relation to personal information of pupils and parents, the College's primary purpose of collection is to enable the College to provide schooling for the pupil.

The purposes for which the College uses personal information of pupils and parents include:

- ◆ To keep parents informed about matters related to their child's schooling, through correspondence, newsletters and magazines;
- ◆ Day-to-day administration;
- ◆ Looking after pupils' educational, social, spiritual and medical wellbeing;
- ◆ Seeking donations and marketing for the College;
- ◆ To satisfy various external agencies such as the New South Wales Catholic Education Commission and the Board of Studies.
- ◆ To satisfy the College's legal obligations and allow the College to discharge its duty of care.

In some cases where the College requests personal information about a pupil or parent, if the information requested is not obtained, the College may not be able to enrol or continue the enrolment of the pupil.

***Job applicants, staff members and contractors:*** In relation to personal information of job applicants, staff members and contractors, the College's primary purpose of collection is to assess and (if successful) to engage the applicant, staff member or contractor, as the case may be.

The purposes for which the College uses personal information of job applicants, staff members and contractors include:

- ◆ In administering the individual's employment or contract, as the case may be;
- ◆ For insurance purposes;
- ◆ Seeking funds and marketing for the College;
- ◆ To satisfy various external agencies such as the Catholic Education Commission and the Board of Studies.
- ◆ To satisfy the College's legal obligations, for example, in relation to child protection legislation.

The information collected on unsuccessful job applicants is to be shredded at the conclusion of the application process.

***Volunteers:*** The College also obtains personal information about volunteers who assist the College in its functions so as to enable the College and the volunteers to work together.

***Marketing and fundraising:*** The College treats marketing and seeking donations for the future growth and development of the College as an important part of ensuring that the College continues to be a quality learning environment in which both pupils and staff thrive. Personal information held by a College may be disclosed to an organisation that assists in the College's fundraising, for example, the College's Parents and Friends or Ex-student's organisation.

Parents, staff, contractors and other members of the wider College community may from time to time receive fundraising information. College publications, like newsletters and magazines, which include personal information, may be used for marketing purposes.

**Exception in relation Schools:** The Privacy Act allows each School to share personal (but not sensitive) information with other Schools. Schools may then only use this personal information for the purpose for which it was originally collected. This allows Schools to transfer information between them, for example, when a pupil transfers from one School to another School.

### **Who might the College disclose personal information to?**

The College may disclose personal information, including sensitive information, held about an individual to:

- ◆ Another school;
- ◆ Government departments;
- ◆ Your local parish;
- ◆ Medical practitioners;
- ◆ People providing services to the College, including specialist visiting teachers and sports coaches;
- ◆ Relevant sporting Associations and organisations;
- ◆ Recipients of College publications, like newsletters and magazines;
- ◆ Catholic Education authorities;
- ◆ Parents; and
- ◆ Anyone you authorise the College to disclose information to.

**Sending information overseas:** The College will not send personal information about an individual outside Australia without:

- ◆ Obtaining the consent of the individual (in some cases this consent will be implied); or
- ◆ Otherwise complying with the National Privacy Principles.

### **How does the College treat sensitive information?**

In referring to 'sensitive information', the College means: information relating to a person's racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religion, trade union or other professional or trade association membership, sexual preferences or criminal record, that is also personal information; and health information about an individual.

Sensitive information will be used and disclosed only for the purpose for which it was provided or a directly related secondary purpose, unless you agree otherwise, or the use or disclosure of the sensitive information is allowed by law.

### **Management and security of personal information**

Red Bend Catholic College staff are required to respect the confidentiality of pupils' and parents' personal information and the privacy of individuals.

Red Bend Catholic College has in place steps to protect the personal information the College holds from misuse, loss, unauthorised access, modification or disclosure by use of various methods including locked storage of paper records and passworded access rights to computerised records.

### **Updating personal information**

Red Bend Catholic College endeavours to ensure that the personal information it holds is accurate, complete and up-to-date. A person may seek to update their personal information held by the College by contacting the Front Office of the College at any time.

The National Privacy Principles require the College not to store personal information longer than necessary.

### **You have the right to check what personal information the College holds about you**

Under the Commonwealth Privacy Act, an individual has the right to obtain access to any personal information which Red Bend Catholic College holds about them and to advise Red Bend Catholic College of any perceived inaccuracy. There are some exceptions to this right set out in the Act. Pupils will generally have access to their personal information through their parents, but older pupils may seek access themselves.

To make a request to access any information Red Bend Catholic College holds about you or your child, please contact the College's Principal in writing.

The College may require you to verify your identity and specify what information you require. The College may charge a fee to cover the cost of verifying your application and locating, retrieving, reviewing and copying any material requested. If the information sought is extensive, the College will advise the likely cost in advance.

### **Consent and rights of access to the personal information of pupils**

Red Bend Catholic College respects every parent's right to make decisions concerning their child's education. Generally, the College will refer any requests for consent and notices in relation to the personal information of a pupil to the pupil's parents. The College will treat consent given by parents as consent given on behalf of the pupil, and notice to parents will act as notice given to the pupil.

Parents may seek access to personal information held by Red Bend Catholic College about them or their child by contacting the Principal. However, there will be occasions when access is denied. Such occasions would include where release of the information would have an unreasonable impact on the privacy of others, or where the release may result in a breach of the College's duty of care to the pupil.

The College may, at its discretion, on the request of a pupil grant that pupil access to information held by the College about them, or allow a pupil to give or withhold consent to the use of their personal information, independently of their Parents. This would normally be done only when the maturity of the pupil and/or the pupil's personal circumstances so warranted.

### **Enquiries**

If you would like further information about the way the Red Bend Catholic College manages the personal information it holds, please contact the Principal.