



Sacred Heart College

MARIST OBSERVATORY

EDUCATION WITH HEART

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HIGH SCHOOL MERIT/DEMERIT SYSTEM

Meaningful learning can only take place in a controlled, disciplined environment and for this reason a merit/demerit system is in place at Sacred Heart College. This system is linked to the academic database and all actions mentioned under commendable or unacceptable types of behaviour will be recorded on an ongoing basis. The accumulation or forfeiture of points will furthermore be linked to a prescribed course of action. A behavioural report together with the academic report will be issued at the end of each term, for both the parents and the school's record. Ideally, it is hoped that all students will earn merit points. The merit/demerit system is based on a yearly cycle, which means all students at the beginning of the new year start with zero points. Points achieved cannot be carried over to the next year. Records will be kept on the student's file in the form of the yearly behavioural report. Merits/Demerits will be messaged to parents/guardian every Friday

GRADING OF COMMENDABLE BEHAVIOUR – MERITS

1 STAR (2 -10 points each)

Academic/Sport/Cultural/Spiritual

1. Donations/Contributions (2 per term, 2 points)
2. Service to school (5 points)
3. Attendance 1 year
4. Improvement of more than 10% per subject. Comparing term 1 to term 3
5. Badge award -Cultural Sport Academics.
6. LRC Representative
7. Most Improved Trophy
8. External spiritual events. (1 per term)
9. Involvement in House Events (Merit for participation)
10. Marist Ethos Award
11. Good work ethic

2 STARS (15 points each)

Academic/Sport/Cultural/Spiritual

1. Top achiever subject at end of the year.
2. Captain – Sport or Cultural.
3. Junior Honours.

3 STARS (20 points each) Academic/Sport/Cultural/Spiritual

1. Half Colours – Cultural/Sport/Academics.
2. LRC – Chairperson/Executive.
3. Prefect

4 STARS (30 points each) Academic/Sport/Cultural/Spiritual

1. Full Colours – Cultural/Sport/Academics.
2. Colours Blazer Award

5 STAR (40 Points each) General:

1. Honours Blazer Award.
2. National Award – Cultural or Sport ***COURSE OF ACTION FOR COMMENDABLE BEHAVIOUR***

Acknowledgement of commendable behaviour may take place in 3 different forms according to the number of points earned and the duration over which they were awarded:

POINTS

ACTION

40 (accumulated) Letter of Congratulations by Grade Head (immediate)

80 (accumulated) Certificate of Commendation by Grade Head (end of term)

120 (accumulated) A tuckshop voucher will be issued by the Principal

TOP MERIT STUDENT PER GRADE

The student with the highest number of merit points in each grade at the end of the year will be acknowledged with a floating trophy and certificate as well as a gift voucher at the Honours Evening.

GRADING OF UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR – DEMERITS

LEVEL 1 (5 points each)

1. Late for class/school 3 times
2. Uniform offence
3. Punishment incomplete/not done
4. Homework incomplete/not done
5. Littering

LEVEL 2 (10 points each)

1. Misbehaviour in class/disruption of school organisation.
2. Misbehaviour at an extra-mural activity or while representing the school.
3. Use of foul language toward other students.
4. Spitting in public/school.
5. Verbal abuse of fellow students.
6. Non-participation in school activities.
7. Poor sportsmanship/misbehaviour.
8. Leaving the school grounds without permission.

LEVEL 3 (15 points each)

1. Dishonesty/lying/disobedience.
2. (Physical)
3. Fraud/forgery of documents or letters.
4. Non-attendance at an extra-curricular activity when representing the school.
5. Vandalism of another student's property or school property (defacing desks, walls, etc.).
6. Misbehaviour during religious events.
7. Fraternising (in uniform/on tours/during breaks).
8. Truancy during any part of the school day.
9. Threatening behaviour towards fellow students.

LEVEL 4 (20 points each)

1. Educator abuse – verbal.
2. Cheek/defiance to staff/adults.
3. Possession of pornographic material.
4. Smoking/in possession of any smoking paraphernalia at school activities/sport or smoking in public in school uniform.
5. Truancy for a school day.

LEVEL 5 (30 points each)

1. Inappropriate behaviour.
2. Assault on staff/parent/student.

LEVEL 6 (40 points each)

1. Possession and/or consumption of alcohol at school/or at a school related activity/tour/event.
2. Stealing/theft.

LEVEL 7 (50 points each)

1. Failure to attend detention.
2. Intimidation/victimisation and bullying in any form.
3. Being in possession of and/or use of any dangerous weapon or object could lead to **immediate expulsion**.
4. Satanism – involvement/promotion of
5. Vandalism of a serious nature leading to loss of property/threat to safety of students/public/staff
6. Serious assault on staff/public or student leading to police charges.
7. Possession/distribution of illegal substances.
8. Cheating during Test/Exam. Zero will be given

COURSE OF ACTION FOR UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR ACCUMULATED

LOSS OF POINTS:

POINTS

ACTION

20 Parents notified via email

40 Parents notified via email and 1st Warning letter issued

80 Disciplinary Hearing with Grade Heads and 2nd Warning letter issued

120 Disciplinary Hearing with external chairperson and Final Warning letter issued

Action after 120 accumulated Final Disciplinary Hearing. Student may be requested to leave the school **IMMEDIATE**

LOSS OF POINTS:

POINTS

ACTION

20 Parents notified via email

(Level 4 single offence)

30 Parents called in for interview with Grade Heads

(Level 5 single offence) STUDENT MAY BE REQUESTED TO LEAVE THE SCHOOL

40 Disciplinary Hearing with Grade Heads and 1st Warning letter issued

(Level 6 single offence) STUDENT MAY BE REQUESTED TO LEAVE THE SCHOOL

50 As for 40 (single offence), at the Principal's discretion Level 7 offences will be treated with severe sanction

(Level 7 single offence) STUDENT MAY BE REQUESTED TO LEAVE THE SCHOOL

WRITTEN WARNING/LETTER OF SUSPENSION

Single serious breaches in the Code of Conduct or repeated infringements on a regular basis are addressed with a written warning and/or a letter of suspension issued by the Principal. Two written warnings may be issued to the student after which a final warning letter is issued. Any further serious offence can be met with a letter requesting the parents/guardian to remove the student from the school. All warning letters issued will have a Saturday detention attached. In order to overcome clashes with the school's extracurricular program, detentions will be held on SATURDAY MORNINGS from 8 – 11h00 (3 hours in duration).

It should be noted that a final warning or letter requesting that the parent or guardian remove the student from the school may be issued without any previous warning letters, provided the seriousness of the offence warrants it.

