



PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION SHEET

COURT ORDERS

This information sheet has been developed to provide parents with an outline of both theirs and the Colleges roles and responsibilities regarding Court Orders.

Court Orders may include:

- Family Violence Restraining Orders – these orders are made to protect a person (and their child/children) from another person with whom they are, or were, in a family relationship with (married, de-facto partners, ex-partners, related to each other including by culture or kinship).
- Parenting Orders – these are orders made by a court about the parenting arrangements for a child/children. They can provide for parental access to a student(s) and any information about the student(s).

Court Orders bind the parties to whom they are directed.

Nagle Catholic College

The primary role of the Principal and staff is to provide and maintain a safe learning environment for every child enrolled at Nagle Catholic College.

The main focus is on the safety and well-being of the child in every situation, regardless of any court order. In exceptional circumstances where there is imminent risk to the safety of a child the police will be contacted.

The College will:

- meet with all parents who present with Court Orders. The purpose of this meeting is to allow the College to take the orders into account in the practical administration of the child's education and to be aware of any affect this may have on the child's wellbeing.
- will provide the parent(s) with an overview of how the College handles Court Orders and a copy of this information sheet.
- will ensure the matter is handled with sensitivity and confidentiality.
- require a copy of any Court Orders, for student(s) records.
- seek assistance from the Employment and Community Relations Team at Catholic Education Western Australia should Court Orders be unclear, or their wording is subject to dispute.

- allow each parent access to student(s) information and will send correspondence to both parties, unless there is a court order to the contrary or where it would be harmful to the safety of the student(s).
- provide the student(s) with support and access to the College counsellor, as required.

The College will not:

- act solely on what a parent or other person tells them they must do or not do that is contrary to the rights of one of the parents.
- make any changes to access restrictions recorded on a student(s) file unless a parent has produced court documentation or the variation or cancellation of the original court order.
- interpret police or court orders, or to mediate disputes between parents.
- police either parent's compliance with a court order.
- hinder either parent from discharging their obligations under a court order.

Parent:

In relation to the child/children, means a parent who by law has responsibility of the long-term care, welfare and development of the child; or day to day care, welfare and development of the child.

Parent(s) responsibilities:

- to provide the College with any court orders in place at the time of enrolment or issued at any time during the time the student(s) are enrolled at the College.
- to provide the College with a copy of any subsequent variation or cancellation of a court order.
- to refrain from requesting or demanding College staff police or enforce court orders. Any breaches or non-compliance should be reported to the court and law enforcement authorities.
- to refrain from requesting staff assist them enforce their rights or restrict the rights of the other parent.

In the absence of court orders both parents are deemed to have equal parental rights and jurisdiction. Therefore, either parent can:

- request reports and other information pertaining to the student(s)(s);
- can enrol the student(s) in the College;
- arrange meetings at the College;
- withdraw the student(s) from the College;
- pick the student(s) up or take the student(s) out of the College.