



Sacred Heart Girls' College, New Plymouth

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PRESIDING MEMBER (Chair) and PRINCIPAL POLICY

Outcome statement

The relationship between the presiding member and the principal is based on solidarity, trust, integrity, mutual respect for the dignity of the other, and models Gospel values.

Scoping

A positive, productive working relationship between the principal and the presiding member is both central and vital to the school.

The presiding member and principal should act as sounding boards, both supporting and challenging, in order to hold the school to account for safeguarding and strengthening Catholic special character and achieving the goals and targets that have been set.

The presiding member has no authority except that granted by the board. The presiding member does not act independently of the board.

Expectations and limitations

- The presiding member and principal must work in solidarity as a team, and there should be no surprises
- The relationship must be professional
- The relationship must be based on Gospel values
- Each must be able to counsel the other on performance concerns
- The presiding member supports the principal and vice versa as appropriate
- Each agrees not to undermine the other's authority
- There is agreement to be honest with each other
- Each agrees and accepts the need to follow policy and procedures
- Neither party will deliberately hold back important information
- Neither party will knowingly misinform the other


Procedures/supporting documentation

Board code of conduct

[The Code of Ethics for Staff and Boards of New Zealand Catholic Schools \(NZCEO, 2014\)](#)

[Principles of Catholic Social Teaching](#)

Legislative compliance

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| Reviewed: March 2024 | Next Reviewed: March 2027 |
| Signed (Presiding Member):  | Date of Board Meeting reviewed and accepted: Wednesday 27 March 2024 |