Professional Learning

Rationale:
The professional learning of staff is important for the ongoing improvement in the quality of teaching at St. Bernard's and to ensure all staff are familiar with contemporary pedagogy and curriculum developments.

Aims:
St. Bernard's will provide opportunities for staff to update and add to their professional learning including assistance to gain Accreditation to Teach in a Catholic School.

Basic theology, morality, scripture and other inservices run by the R.E. Department of the CEO and Catholic Education conferences will be given priority until this accreditation is achieved.

Implementation:
Applications to participate or lead a professional learning activity must be approved by the Director of Learning and Director of Campus. Payment should not be forwarded prior to this approval being given.

Staff who attend professional learning days are required to complete a report on the staff database and pass on helpful information, processes, techniques and ideas to other staff they work with. To assist them in doing this they will be asked to outline how they intend to follow up the professional learning with the staff with whom they are involved. The Director of Learning will monitor this process.

All teachers are encouraged to participate in two external professional learning days each year. To ensure that the teaching/learning program for students is not compromised some restrictions will apply to the number of teachers who can attend/lead a professional learning day on any one day. A limit of four days over two years for each individual will apply. Additional days can only be approved in exceptional circumstances.

Faculty Budgets will usually cover the cost of professional learning registrations.

Attendance at external Meetings related to the administration of the V.C.E. will not be regarded as professional learning activities.