

# Parental Code of Conduct

This Code has been developed so that parents and those with parental responsibilities are aware of and meet the School's and Childcare Centre (s) expectations with regard to their interaction with the School and Childcare Centre (s), its teachers, other parents and children/students. Adherence to this Code is important to promote positive and productive relationships within the School and childcare community.

## Role of the School Generally

The School is responsible for establishing and administering the policies, procedures and rules which govern the day to day operations of the school and Childcare Centre (s). It is important that parents recognise and respect this, and adhere, and have their children adhere to, the School's requirements, and support these policies, procedures and rules.

## Discipline

The School and Childcare Centre (s) expect students to comply with its rules and not engage in behaviour which is harmful to others or is contrary to the ethos and philosophy of the School and Childcare Centre (s). Parents are expected to support the School and Childcare Centre (s) in relation to its discipline policy and not do anything which undermines its authority. It must be understood that in the case of minor disciplinary matters, the School and Childcare Centre (s) will be the arbiter of what took place and, what a fair punishment is. It will not engage in debate about the details of the conduct for the appropriateness of the punishment.

In relation to further disciplinary matters which may result in suspension or expulsion the School or the Childcare Centre (s) will inform parents of the matter and will deal with it in accordance with the School's disciplinary policy. While parents will be consulted, the final decision will be the School's.

## Interaction with Staff

The School and Childcare Centre (s) conduct regular meetings between staff and parents at which the child or student's progress can be discussed. There may be other times when a parent or staff member requests a meeting to discuss issues that may arise during the course of a child or student's schooling.

If a parent wishes to meet with a staff member, they should make an appointment so that a mutually convenient time can be arranged. This can be done through the school or Childcare Centre (s) office.

Parents should never attempt to contact a staff member at their home, unless the staff member requests this.

Parents also can make an appointment to see the Principal about any particular concerns they may have relating to their son or daughter.

It is important that parents show respect for staff and not publicly criticise them or seek to undermine their authority. If a parent has a particular concern about a member of staff, they can raise it with the staff member concerned or with the Principal. However, when doing so they should observe the general rules of conduct set out in this Code.

The School and Childcare Centre (s) has a duty of care to protect all staff and for this reason any aggressive or abusive behaviour will not be tolerated.

## Complaints

If a parent has a complaint about an issue, this should be directed to the Principal or to the teacher/ Educator responsible for the particular area of activity.

If a parent wishes to make a complaint, they should not use rude or abusive language. This is not productive and can make it harder to resolve concerns.

## Interactions Generally

Communications, whether verbal or in writing with other members of the school community, whether teachers, administration staff, other parents or a child or students should:

- show respect, courtesy and consideration;
- not harass or bully another person;
- not use intemperate language; and
- not be confrontational.

Social media should not be used to criticise or denigrate others in the school community.

## Sport

Parents are welcome to attend sporting events but should exercise restraint when supporting the school or childcare Centre (s) teams. In particular, parents/guardians should not abuse, threaten or otherwise seek to intimidate an umpire, referee, player, or any School or Childcare Centre (s) representatives.

The Sports coaches at the School or Childcare Centre (s) pick teams based on their view of the most appropriate selection at the relevant time. It is not appropriate for parents to complain about the failure of their child to be picked for a particular team.

## Separated Parents

Where some children/students have parents that are separated or divorced, parents should not attempt to involve the School in any parental dispute that may arise. The School and Childcare Centre (s) are not able to make judgments on the merits of claims made by one parent against another and should not be asked to do so. Nor should it be asked to take any action which would or is designed to disadvantage any party. The School will of course, observe any orders made by a Court in relation to a student or communications with parents.

## Failure to Observe this Code

If a parent/ guardian fails to observe this Code after being warned about a breach, the School or Childcare Centre (s) may:

- limit access to a teacher or teachers;
- limit access to the school premises or sporting or other school events; or
- terminate the enrolment of the child/student.