Parent Code of Conduct

Introduction

This Code has been developed so that parents and those with parental responsibilities are aware of and meet the School's expectations with regard to their interaction with the School, its teachers, other parents and students. Adherence to this Code is important to promote positive and productive relationships within the School community.
A copy of this Code of Conduct is published on our school website.

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. It is important that parents recognise and respect this, adhere and have their children adhere to the School's requirements, and support these decisions.

Interactions Generally

Communications whether verbal or in writing with other members of the school community whether teachers, administration staff, other parents 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.

Interaction with Staff

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

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 has a duty of care to protect all staff and for this reason any aggressive or abusive behaviour will not be tolerated.

Separated Parents

Some 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 is 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 one party. The School will of course, observe any orders made by a Court in relation to a student or communications with parents. The School is not responsible for enforcing any Court Orders.

Discipline

The School expects 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. Parents are expected to support the School 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 will be the arbiter of what took place and what is a fair consequence; it will not engage in debate about the details of the conduct for the appropriateness of the consequence.

In relation to more disciplinary matters which may result in suspension or expulsion, the School 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.

Sport

Parents are welcome to attend sporting events, but should exercise restraint when supporting school teams. In particular, they should not abuse, threaten or otherwise seek to intimidate an umpire or referee or be directed against a player, or any School representatives. Teachers at the School may 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.

Complaints

If a parent has a complaint about an issue, this should be directed to the Principal or to the teacher 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.

Child Protection

Under the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 (NSW), all teachers and certain school staff are mandatory reporters and must report to the Department of Communities and Justice Child Protection as soon as practicable if they have reasonable grounds to suspect a child or young person is at risk of significant harm, including sexual abuse, physical abuse, neglect, exposure to domestic violence, or serious psychological harm, providing the child's name or description and reasons for their concern.

Failure to Observe this Code

If a parent fails to observe this Code after being warned about a breach, the School 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 student.

Document Monitoring

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Monitored by	Principal

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Document Distribution

Aetaomah Website

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Version	Date	Amendments/Notes
1.0	December 2024	Format update
2.0	October 2026	ISNSW suggested updates **Child Protection:** Additional Mandatory Reporting paragraph. **Separated Parents Addition:** The School is not responsible for enforcing any Court Orders.