

School Community Members Conduct Policy Ss Peter and Paul's School



Related Policies:

Duty of Care
Code of Conduct of Professional Standards
Excursion

Purpose:

The School Community Members Conduct Policy ensures that the school is a safe and positive place in which learning takes place, the property and reputation of the school is protected, and the rights of all members of the school community are protected and respected.

Policy:

Ss Peter and Paul's School is a place that promotes values contained within the school's mission statement and supports the Catholic ethos of the school.

All members of the school community, parents, students and staff have the right to be safe and feel safe in the school community.

Clear standards of behaviour and conduct are expected. People are assumed to be courteous, considerate, use appropriate language and behaviour and show respect for the rights and property of others.

People are accountable for their actions and procedures are put in place when there is noncompliance with these standards of behaviour

Definitions:

Members of the school community refers to staff, students, parents, carers, friends, invitees of the school and any visitors present at school events and activities.

Procedure:

Minimum Standards of Behaviour

All members of the school community must:

- Demonstrate honesty and integrity
- Respect differences in people, their ideas and opinions
- Treat people with dignity and respect at all times, especially when there is a conflict
- Accept that the use of swearing, derogatory terms, sexual jokes, innuendo and other inappropriate language in the school environment or around students is appropriate
- Support the school's policies and procedures
- Work with the school to deal promptly and fairly with areas of concern
- Respect and treat others fairly, regardless of their race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability
- Respect the legal and moral rights of others
- Show proper care and regard for School property and the property of others
- Take appropriate measures to help those in need
- Respect persons who are in a position of authority
- Seek assistance from school staff if necessary to deal with issues and conflict
- Respect the need of others to work in an environment of learning and teaching.

School Community members must not:

- Use any object to threaten or intimidate any other person
- Cause injury to any person by the use of any such object
- Verbally abuse, threaten or inflict bodily harm on another person by any physical aggression or encourage others to do so; or

- Be in possession of, or under the influence of, or provide others with, alcohol or illegal drugs. The exception is when, in the normal course of events, the School provides hospitality to members or guests of the School Community in keeping with appropriate legal and hospitality regulations.

Rights and Responsibilities of teachers

Teachers have the right to expect:

- the co-operation of students
- that they will be able to teach in an orderly and co-operative environment
- the support of all staff in fulfilling their professional duties.

Teachers have a responsibility to

- treat students fairly and consistently
- provide an appropriate range of learning strategies
- undertake the counselling of students and pastoral role when appropriate
- develop in students an awareness and understanding of school rules,
- follow the agreed policies and procedures of the school regarding the pastoral care and management of student behaviour
- communicate with parents/carers on matters relating to the educational development and behaviour of their children

Rights and Responsibilities of students

Students have a right to:

- feel safe and secure in a caring and supportive environment
- learn in a positive, harmonious and safe environment to the best of their ability
- be treated with respect, courtesy and kindness by other students and teachers
- be listened to
- express feelings and opinions assertively
- expect that school rules are fair, consistently implemented and respect the rights of all involved
- be valued for their individuality

Students have a responsibility to:

- accept school policies and rules regarding behaviour,
- act and work co-operatively with other students and teachers,
- respect the learning needs of other students,
- take progressive responsibility for their own learning, to work consistently and complete tasks as required,
- be tolerant of differences,
- be punctual and regular in attendance,
- inform parents of educational progress and to ensure that all school communication is effectively delivered
- treat others with courtesy, kindness and respect
- listen to others with mutual respect
- maintain a safe and secure school environment
- develop responsibility for their own actions
- work to achieve personal best and not distract others from learning

All excursion and permission notes contain a clause that pertains to the safe and appropriate conduct of students.

Year 6 students sign a conduct behaviour contract before they begin their end of year camp. This contract refers to the expected appropriate behaviours and the consequences of such inappropriate actions.

Rights and Responsibilities of parents/carers

Parents/guardians have a right to:

- expect that their children can interact and learn in a secure environment

- be informed of matters regarding their children
- be involved in developing strategies for management of student behaviour

Parents/guardians have a responsibility to:

- treat all persons associated with the school with respect and courtesy
- ensure their child/children are punctual to class
- follow school procedures governing entry and behaviour on school grounds
- discuss the progress or welfare of their child using the correct procedures
- encourage children to observe school rules
- work co-operatively with the school and school staff to solve problems
- be aware and support school policies and procedures
- directly contact the school about relevant information and concerns by letter by phone
- arrange an interview with the child's teacher to discuss educational/social matters

Open and respectful communication between all members of the school community is important and vital to maintenance of a happy, harmonious and safe school environment.

The first port of call for parents is their child's classroom teacher.

For more serious concerns, contact the school office and make an appointment to see the Principal/Assistant Principal or appropriate staff member.

The school will deal with issues between students as part of the school's Behaviour Management Policy.

On occasion, concerns may cause frustration and anxiety. At such times it is always important to organise a time to talk with school staff in an unhurried and confidential atmosphere.

No parent should directly approach another person's child.

On occasions, where people express concerns in an aggressive, threatening or violent manner, the principal (or nominee) has the authority to:

- direct the person to immediately leave the grounds
- re-convene the meeting at another time when the party is calm
- call the police to remove the person should he/she refuse
- Seek legal advice

Evaluation:

The School Community Members Conduct Policy will be reviewed by the staff of Ss Peter and Paul's School when necessary or just prior to registration.