

Mentone Primary School Community Code of Conduct



Mentone Primary School is committed to ensuring a vibrant learning environment that is safe, positive and supportive for all students, staff, families and visitors of the school.

Above all, we promote the development of connected, confident, creative learners facilitated by the strong, authentic relationships that unite our learning community; a community partnering together with respect, integrity and understanding to model and instil high expectations in everything we do.

It is the intention of Mentone Primary School to provide clear guidelines to all staff, parents and visitors regarding the conduct expected of them whilst on the School premises, engaging in School related activities, communications or correspondence and/or when representing the School. Parents and visitors are expected to uphold the School's core values of caring and compassion, honesty, respect, teamwork and friendliness at all times.



Department of
Education & Training

STATEMENT OF VALUES

PROMOTING HEALTHY, SAFE AND RESPECTFUL SCHOOL COMMUNITIES

STATEMENT

Mentone Primary School recognises the importance of the partnership between schools and parents to support student learning, engagement and wellbeing. We share a commitment to, and a responsibility for, ensuring inclusive, safe and orderly environments for children and young people. This Code of Conduct sets out our behavioural expectations of all members in this school community, including the principal, all school staff, parents, students and visitors. It respects the diversity of individuals in our school community and addresses the shared responsibilities of all members in building safe and respectful school communities.

Discrimination, sexual and other forms of harassment, bullying, violence, aggression and threatening behaviour are unacceptable and will not be tolerated in this school.

Our Code of Conduct acknowledges that parents and school staff are strongly motivated to do their best for every child. Everyone has the right to differing opinions and views and to raise concerns, as long as we do this respectfully and as a community working together.

RESPONSIBILITIES

AS PRINCIPALS AND SCHOOL LEADERS, WE WILL:

- Work collaboratively to create a school environment where respectful and safe conduct is expected of everyone.
- Behave in a manner consistent with the standards of our profession and meet core responsibilities to provide inclusive, safe and orderly environments.
- Plan, implement and monitor arrangements to ensure the care, safety, security and general wellbeing of all students in attendance at the school is protected.
- Identify and support students who are or may be at risk.
- Do our best to ensure every child achieves their personal and learning potential.
- Work with parents to understand their child's needs and, where necessary, adapt the learning environment accordingly.
- Respond appropriately when inclusive, safe or orderly behaviour is not demonstrated and implement appropriate interventions and sanctions when required.
- Make known to parents the school's communication and complaints procedures.
- Ask any person who is acting in an offensive or disorderly way to leave the school grounds.

AS TEACHERS AND ALL NON-TEACHING STAFF, WE WILL:

- Model positive behaviour to students consistent with the standards of our profession.
- Proactively engage with parents about student outcomes.
- Work with parents to understand the needs of each student and, where necessary, adapt the learning environment accordingly.
- Work collaboratively with parents to improve learning and wellbeing outcomes for students with additional needs.
- Communicate with the principal and school leaders in the event we anticipate or face any tension or challenging behaviours from parents.
- Treat all members of the school community with respect.

AS PARENTS, WE WILL:

- Model positive behaviour to our child and other children.
- Ensure our child attends school on time.
- Take an interest in our child's school and learning.
- Work with the school to achieve the best outcomes for our child.
- Communicate constructively with the school and use expected processes and protocols when raising concerns.
- Support school staff to maintain a safe learning environment for all students.
- Follow the school's communication and complaints processes.
- Treat all school leaders, staff, students, and other members of the school community with respect.

AS STUDENTS, WE WILL:

- Model positive behaviour to other students.
- Comply with and model school values.
- Behave in a safe and responsible manner.
- Respect ourselves, other members of the school community and the school environment.
- Actively participate in school.
- Not disrupt the learning of others and make the most of our educational opportunities.

AS COMMUNITY MEMBERS, WE WILL:

- Model positive behaviour to the school community.
- Treat other members of the school community with respect.
- Support school staff to maintain a safe and orderly learning environment for all students.
- Utilise the school's communications policy to communicate with the school.

THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT WILL:

- Provide support and advice to principals to equip them to manage and respond to challenging behaviour of students, parents and staff.
- Provide practical guidance and resources to support schools to manage and respond to challenging behaviour of students, parents and staff.
- Provide practical guidance and resources to support schools to respond to and prevent bullying and promote cyber-safety and wellbeing.
- Provide access to evidence based resources and strategies to increase student safety, wellbeing and engagement.
- Provide schools with practical and legal support as required.
- Provide parents with practical guidance and resources to resolve conflicts with the school.

CONSEQUENCES FOR FAILING TO UPHOLD THE VALUES OF THIS CODE OF CONDUCT

UNREASONABLE BEHAVIOURS

Behaviours that are considered inappropriate on and adjacent to school grounds or in relation to school business and that do not uphold the values of this Code of Conduct include when a person:

- Is rude, aggressive or harasses others
- Sends rude, confronting or threatening letters, emails or text messages
- Is manipulative or threatening
- Speaks in an aggressive tone, either in person or over the telephone
- Makes sexist, racist or derogatory comments
- Inappropriately uses social media as a forum to raise concerns/make complaint against the school
- Is physically intimidating, e.g. standing very close.

Principals are responsible for determining what constitutes reasonable and unreasonable behaviour.

CONSEQUENCES

Unreasonable behaviour and/or failure to uphold the values of this Code of Conduct may lead to further investigation and the implementation of appropriate consequences. This may include:

- Utilising mediation and counselling services
- Alternative communication strategies being applied
- Formal notice preventing entry onto school premises or attendance at school
- Activities. Written notice will follow any verbal notice given.
- An intervention order being sought
- Informing the police which may result in a charge of trespass or assault

By agreeing to meet specified standards of positive behaviour, everyone in our school community can be assured that they will be treated with fairness and respect. In turn, this will help to create a school that is safe and orderly, where everyone is empowered to participate and learn.