



Mawarra Independent School

Parent Code of Conduct

Mawarra Independent 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 and safe environments for children and young people.

This Parent Code of Conduct sets out our behavioural expectations of all members in this school community, including all school staff, volunteers, parents, students and visitors. It respects the diversity of individuals in our school community and addresses the shared responsibilities of all members in building a safe and respectful school community.

As community members, we will:

- Treat all staff, students, and other members of the school community with respect
- Be a positive advocate for Mawarra Independent School
- Model positive behaviour to our child and the school community
- Support school staff to maintain a safe learning environment for all students
- Utilise the school's agreed communication processes when communicating with the school
- Work collaboratively with teachers to understand the needs of our child
- Be aware of the confidentiality of school-based matters and act in accordance with the school's Privacy Policy.

As parents, we will:

- Notify the school in the event of an absence
- Be active participants in the school's programs and events where possible
- Collaboratively work with the school to achieve the best outcomes for our child
- Raise concerns in a respectful and constructive manner using the guidelines provided in the school's 'Complaints Handling Policy'
- Refrain from approaching other students and/or parents about school related incidents
- Show tolerance and understanding towards others
- Take responsibility for our own actions
- The adult community of the school is expected to model courteous behaviour and to treat all members of the school community with respect and consideration
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person, regardless of their abilities, gender, religion or cultural background to eliminate discrimination
- Conduct ourselves in a lawful, ethical, safe and responsible manner
- Cooperate with the school to achieve the best outcomes for our child



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- Initiate and maintain constructive communication and relationships with school staff regarding our child's learning, wellbeing and behaviour
- Contribute positively to behaviour support plans that concern our child.

We expect our school community to respect our school philosophy and values, keep our school tidy and set a good example.

Unacceptable behaviours

Discrimination, sexual and other forms of harassment, bullying, violence, aggression and threatening behaviour are some unacceptable behaviours that will not be tolerated at Mawarra Independent School.

Consequences

Unacceptable behaviour and/or failure to uphold the values of this Code of Conduct may lead to further investigation and the implementation of appropriate consequences, which may include:

- limited access to a teacher or teachers
- alternative communication strategies being applied
- limited access to the school premises or other school events
- terminate the enrolment of the student.

Grievance Process for Parents/Guardians

We want to work in partnership with our families. If a parent/guardian has a current **complaint, criticism or concern**, it is expected the following steps be followed in the first instance:

1. Speak to the appropriate school person involved (e.g. class teacher) first and try to resolve the concern with mutual respect and clear communication. Where / if possible, make an appointment with the relevant person
2. If for some reason this is not possible, then make an appointment to see the Principal
3. The Principal should endeavour to mediate and find a resolution.
4. If the complaint is with the Principal or you feel the Principal has not resolved the matter satisfactorily contact the School Management committee.
5. A copy of the School's Complaints Handling Policy is available on our website.

It is important to note that criticism regarding a staff member will only be heard if it is related to their professional conduct.

Deliberate breaches and inability to respect the Code of Conduct for Parents & Volunteers or vexatious complaints may result in exclusion of a parent/guardian from a school and / or possible termination of enrolment of their child/ren.