

The College Council believes that students learn best in a safe, happy and orderly environment. Such an environment maximises each student's learning outcomes and success, and meets the needs of our students at all levels of their education.

As a means of promoting such an environment, the College has a Student Code of Conduct and the following principles underpin this Code:

- our College considers that a positive approach to behaviour is essential in fostering a College climate within which personal responsibility and self-discipline will be developed. Therefore everyone has responsibilities
- all individuals are to be treated fairly, equally and with respect
- students have a right to work in a secure environment where they feel free to develop to the fullest, their talents, interests and ambitions without intimidation
- parents/carers have a right to expect that their children will be educated in a secure environment in which expectations of care, courtesy and respect for the rights of others will be encouraged
- parents/carers accept their obligation to support the College in its efforts to maintain a positive teaching and learning environment
- teachers have a right to expect that they will be able to teach in an atmosphere of order and cooperation
- the College Principal and staff members accept their obligation to fairly, reasonably and consistently implement the Code of Conduct.

The Student Code of Conduct provides a framework within which students are able to develop the behaviours which are acceptable within the broader community. The Student Code of Conduct provides an outline of the behavioural expectations for students when they are on the College site, moving to and from College, travelling on public and contract transport services and when attending sporting events, College functions, excursions, etc.

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

All students have the right to:

- participate fully in their education
- feel safe, secure and happy at school
- be treated with dignity, respect and in a fair and equitable manner
- learn in environment free from bullying, harassment, violence, discrimination or intimidation.
- express their ideas, feelings and concerns

All students have the responsibility to:

- uphold the College's values at all times
- participate fully in their educational program
- display positive behaviours that demonstrate respect for themselves, their peers, their teachers and members of the College Community.
- respect the right of others to learn
- be responsible for their own actions and accept the consequences of their choices.

Strategies

Our College considers that a college wide positive behaviour approach is necessary to foster a college climate within which personal responsibility and self-discipline will be developed.

We are committed to the following strategies:

- creating a College environment with a climate of curiosity, achievement, respect and empathy
- following a shared whole-College approach and reward system
- building a positive working environment in the classroom
- using a positive management approach towards behaviour and discipline and actively teaching and supporting students to display responsible and thoughtful actions
- gearing the learning environment for the maximum student success in a wide range of academic and non-academic activities
- providing regular encouragement and feedback for students
- ensuring that we are inclusive of all students
- ensuring regular discussion and clarity of College rules, consequences, rights and responsibilities.
- developing individual student support procedures as required; and
- establishing and maintaining regular communication with parents.

Unacceptable Conduct

Unacceptable conduct includes, but is not limited to:

- not meeting College or Learning Community rules/expectations
- touching, handling, pushing or otherwise physically or sexually engaging with students or others in a manner which is not appropriate and may endanger the health, safety and wellbeing of that person;
- any form of physical or verbal violence including fighting, assault or threats of violence;
- any form of cyber bullying or cyber abuse, or sending inappropriate, offensive or explicit text messages, photos or videos;
- language or conduct which is likely to offend, harass, bully or unfairly discriminate against any student, teacher, contractor or visitor;
- unacceptable class attendance levels;
- undertaking dangerous activities and violence
- intimidating behaviour and harassment

Reporting

It is expected that all students will report any cases to a teacher or leadership team member (in confidence) of unlawful behaviour or behaviour in breach of this conduct which may have been observed or reported to them.

Students should report all inappropriate behaviour to their Sub School leader, House leader, Student wellbeing staff or to an Assistant Principal. Students are encouraged to support their peers, by reporting all such instances to staff members.

Procedures and Consequences for unacceptable conduct

Consequences occur as a result of behaviour. Consequences can be positive or negative depending on the type of behaviour. Consequences should be fair, predictable and certain to happen. They should, where possible, relate to the rule that has been broken.

Serious and continued breaches of the Student Code of Conduct and College rules may result in suspension/expulsion.

Students who breach the Code of Conduct may be sanctioned by the observing teacher, Homegroup teacher or House/Year Level Leader as deemed appropriate given the nature of breach and the age of the student.

Students who continue to breach the Code will be dealt with by the House leader, Sub School Leader or Assistant Principal. Appropriate action, which may include behavioural contracts, detention, mediation or suspension, is at the discretion of the Assistant Principals. For very serious and persistent cases, an Assistant Principal, after consultation with the Principal, may seek to suspend or expel a student.

Mandatory reporting provisions require teachers to report to the appropriate authority all cases of suspected sexual or physical abuse. Teachers are referred to the "Mandatory Reporting Guidelines".

Victims and perpetrators will be given appropriate advice, counselling and guidance within Learning Communities, and when appropriate, by members of the Student Wellbeing Team.

The Student Wellbeing Leader will exercise professional judgement in seeking external support for students.

Any student whose behaviour is disruptive to the work of the classroom or who interferes with the learning opportunities of others will be instructed by the teacher, in the first instance, to stop such behaviour. The first course of action is to apply the college's tiered approach. Should this not achieve the desired approach, teachers may choose to:

- (a) move the student to another location within the learning community or 'buddy room'
- (b) call 911 to ask for assistance to come to the classroom to remove the student;

Should a child be removed from their Learning Community, a reflection sheet must be completed with a copy sent home to parents. Teachers must record such episodes on COMPASS.

Following a suspension, a meeting will be held with the Sub School Leader, a parent, and the student in order to achieve a common understanding of the expected future attitude and behaviour of the student.

Ongoing breaches of the Code of Conduct for classrooms may necessitate further interviews with parents, the Sub School Leader or the Assistant Principal. Serious or continued breaches of the Code of Conduct for classrooms may necessitate suspension.

Students may be given a support session, or restricted from using particular areas of the grounds for a specified period. Students who continue to fail to comply with instructions of the College will be suspended.

The behaviour and attitude of the student may be monitored for a probationary period by the use of:

- (a) a Check in Check out to be signed by teachers during each lesson;
- (b) a written management plan between the student, teacher, Sub School Leader and parent;
- (c) monitored time-out of class as arranged by the Sub School Leader, correspondence, telephone conferences, or interviews with parents;

[Related Policies:](#)

[Student Wellbeing and Engagement](#)

[Mandatory Reporting](#)

[Student Dress Code](#)

[Bannockburn College strategies to embed a culture of child safety](#)

Review Cycle and Evaluation

This policy was last ratified by College Council on October 2021 and is scheduled for review in October 2022