



PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

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1. Policy Statement

1.1 Novoschool places high value on the partnership with parents and carers, recognizing their crucial role in the education and overall success of their children.

1.2 The Parent Code of Conduct (the Code) has been established to ensure that parents and individuals with parental responsibilities understand and fulfil the School's expectations regarding their interactions within the School community. Adherence to this Code is essential for fostering positive and productive relationships.

1.3 The Code applies to all parents and individuals with parental responsibilities (referred to as 'Parents' in this Code), encompassing behaviour or conduct:

- on School premises;
- during School-related activities or when representing the School, both onsite and at external venues such as sports facilities; and
- in communications with School staff, other parents, students, and other members of the School community, including on social media, online forums, or other digital platforms.

2. Context

2.1 Novoschool strives to cultivate an inclusive environment that encourages parent involvement in various School activities and initiatives.

2.2 The School is responsible for establishing and implementing policies, procedures, and rules governing its daily operations. Consequently, Parents are expected to adhere to all relevant policies, procedures, and guidelines, including directives from the Principal, when present on School premises or attending School-related events.

3. Guiding Principles

3.1 Upholding the safety, welfare, and wellbeing of students is paramount for the School, its staff, and Parents in all decision-making and actions.

4. Discipline

4.1 Collaborative efforts among Parents, teachers, and other significant figures in a student's life are crucial for their holistic development. This collaboration extends to acknowledging positive behaviour and addressing concerns constructively.

4.2 The School anticipates student compliance with behavioural expectations and prohibits actions detrimental to others, themselves, or the School's values. Parents are expected to support the School in addressing instances where students fail to meet these expectations.

4.3 For minor disciplinary incidents, the School will assess the situation and determine appropriate resolutions. Typically, the School does not engage in detailed debates with Parents regarding disciplinary outcomes.

4.4 Major disciplinary matters, potentially leading to suspension or expulsion, will be communicated to Parents and handled in accordance with the School's Behaviour Management Policy.



5. Interaction with Staff

5.1 Positive collaboration between teachers and Parents benefits students significantly. Therefore, Parents should demonstrate respect and courtesy towards staff members, refraining from undermining their authority or criticising them in front of students.

5.2 Scheduled meetings provide opportunities for discussing student progress. Parents seeking additional meetings should arrange appointments to ensure convenient timing for all parties involved.

5.3 If Parents have concerns about a staff member, they are encouraged to address them directly with the individual or follow the procedures outlined in the Complaint Handling Policy available on the School website.

5.4 Official school channels should be used for communication with staff members, and contact should not be attempted through personal means such as home addresses, personal phones, private email or social media.

5.5 The School maintains obligations towards staff safety and wellbeing, hence any form of aggressive or intimidating behaviour towards staff members is unacceptable.

6. Raising Concerns

6.1 Misunderstandings or grievances may arise occasionally, and addressing them respectfully is vital for maintaining positive relationships. Concerns should be raised following the procedures outlined in the School's Complaint Handling Policy and Procedure.

7. General Interactions

7.1 Open and respectful communication is valued by the School. Parents are expected to express concerns clearly and courteously, demonstrating care through active listening.

7.2 Communication, whether verbal or written, should be conducted with respect, avoiding harassment, bullying, intemperate language, or confrontational behaviour.

7.3 Parents should refrain from approaching students or their Parents regarding School-related concerns without prior discussion with relevant staff members.

8. Online Conduct

8.1 The Code's expectations extend to online interactions, promoting positive engagement and community building while refraining from criticising or disparaging others.

8.2 Social media usage should contribute to a constructive environment, and Parents should not engage in behaviours that compromise the wellbeing of the School community or its members.

8.3 Guidelines regarding online conduct include obtaining consent before posting images or recordings of students, refraining from initiating communication with students other than their own, and respecting privacy rights.



9. Extracurricular Activities

9.1 Participation in extracurricular activities fosters student development outside the classroom, emphasising effort, respect, and fair play over outcomes.

9.2 Parents are encouraged to attend events, demonstrating appropriate behaviour and refraining from any form of misconduct towards participants or officials.

9.3 When attending sport and competition events, encouraging students to perform their best and showing appreciation for good sportsmanship is encouraged.

9.4 Complaints regarding game conduct should be addressed through proper channels rather than during or immediately after events.

9.5 Contacting the opposition's representatives directly with complaints is prohibited; concerns should be directed to the Principal.

9.6 Serious complaints should be handled following the School's Complaint Handling Policy and Procedure.

10. Failure to Observe this Code

10.1 Failure to adhere to the Code, after being warned, may result in limitations on access to School facilities or events, or ultimately, termination of enrollment.

11. Supporting Procedures and Related Policy

- Child Protection Policy
- Privacy Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Behavior Management Policy
- Complaint Handling Procedures

12. Legislation and Regulations

- Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 (NSW)
- Crimes Act 1900 (NSW)
- Education Act 1990 (NSW)
- Family Law Act 1975 (Cth)
- Privacy Act 1988 (Cth)