

Student Code of Conduct

Welcome to Kennedy Baptist College! The College has high expectations of all our students and provides them with outstanding education opportunities in a safe, supportive, positive, and welcoming school environment and encourages students to participate, develop and learn to reach their full potential.

Our mission is to provide educational excellence in a Christian context, addressing the needs of individuals for lifelong learning. Kennedy Baptist College values:

Boldness	Staff and students are bold in accepting the challenges on offer at the College and strive to achieve the best outcomes.
Faith	The Christian faith underpins all the College's activities.
Integrity	The College community demonstrates respect and honesty towards all its members and delivers on its promises.
Growth	The College community develop their unique gifts and talents and strengthen their areas of weakness.
Service	The College community serve others within the College, and local, national, and international communities.

Students can be confident that the College puts their best interests first and their safety and wellbeing is the centre of thought, values, and actions. The College is a child safe organisation where students' rights, needs and interests are met and where all students are protected from harm.

The *Student Code of Conduct* sets out the minimum standards of conduct expected of students attending the College. It guides student behaviour, establishes expectations for personal boundaries and clearly delineates appropriate and inappropriate behaviour in relation to staff, other students, and other members of the college community. It also explains the process when students have concerns about breaches or behaviour.

1. Rationale

School Registration Standard 10 – Child Abuse Prevention, requires the College to implement a code of conduct for students which is consistent with the *Example Code of Conduct* and the *National Child Safe Organisation Principles*. The *Example Code of Conduct* has been published by the Australian Human Rights Commission and is consistent with the *National Child Safe Organisation Principles*.

In consultation with students, develop and regularly review the *Student Code of Conduct* with guidelines on how to comply which:

- Sets out minimum standards of conduct.
- Prohibits bullying, harassment, and other forms of peer-to-peer abuse.
- Requires respect for the privacy and human dignity of other students.

Provide parents / guardians with the *Staff Code of Conduct*, the *Student Code of Conduct*, and the process when they have concerns about grooming, child abuse or other behaviour which is not permitted by either code.

Respond appropriately to complaints and allegations of breaches of the *Staff Code of Conduct* or *Student Code of Conduct* in the best interests of students and in accordance with policies and procedures. This includes providing support services and reporting to responsible government authorities.

2. Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students have the right to:

- Reach their full potential in a safe, supportive, and positive environment.
- Feel safe physically, emotionally, and spiritually.
- Be treated with respect, courtesy and kindness by other students, teachers, and adults at the College.
- Express ideas and opinions in a positive way.
- Be heard.
- Be treated fairly, consistently, and justly.
- Have their privacy, human rights, and other legal rights respected.
- Have their personal boundaries respected.

With rights come responsibilities; students have a responsibility to:

- Understand the standards and expectations of their conduct and behaviour as stated in the *Student Code of Conduct*.
- Be aware of the process if these standards and expectations are not met.
- Uphold the values and respect the Christian ethos of the College including conduct outside the College.
- Build positive relationships with peers and staff that reflects respect and assists in building a positive College culture.
- Take responsibility for their own learning, to work consistently and complete tasks as required.
- Enable others to learn in a safe, supportive, positive, and welcoming environment.
- Always follow the College's policies, procedures, and the directions of teachers.
- Treat others with respect, courtesy, and kindness.
- Respect the human rights, dignity, and legal rights of others.
- Be tolerant of differences such as race, culture, religious affiliation, and ability.
- Not engage or participate in bullying, harassment, exclusion, intimidation, discrimination, aggressive behaviour, or other forms of student-student abuse.

- Respect the privacy and personal boundaries of other students and staff.

3. Student Conduct

Examples of expected student conduct is outlined in more detail below.

Students are expected to:

- Actively participate in the learning process.
- Refrain from distracting behaviour that interrupts the work of the class or hinders learning opportunities for other students.
- Always follow teacher instructions, class rules, and expectations.
- Submit assessment tasks on time, unless unforeseen or exceptional circumstances arise.
- Ensure their activities are conducted safely and don't place others at risk of harm.
- Be punctual and attend all classes.
- Remain at the College during the school day unless otherwise approved or permitted.
- Attend compulsory College functions and events such as Easter services, swimming and athletics carnivals, award nights, camps, and work experience.
- Treat all College staff, other students, and visitors to the College with courtesy, tolerance, and respect.
- Always use polite and respectful language.
- Respect the privacy of others by not sharing personal information, photos or videos without their consent or agreement.
- Respect College property and the property and belongings of staff and other students.
- Uphold the reputation of the College by demonstrating appropriate standards of behaviour in transit to and from the College and when wearing College uniform.
- Always dress properly and neatly in the College uniform according to the Uniform Policy.

Students are **not** to:

- Engage in plagiarism or other academic misconduct; students must not present anyone else's work as if it were their own.
- Engage in any form of cyber bullying or cyber abuse.
- Behave aggressively towards another student or any other person or cause them to act inappropriately.
- Intimidate, coerce, or threaten anyone or make anyone afraid of being harmed themselves or by someone else.
- Physically, psychologically, emotionally, or mentally bully, or harass another student or any other person.

- Engage in any form of physical or verbal abuse or violence including fighting, assault or threats of abuse or violence.
- Engage in any form of sex, or act of a sexual nature with another student or any other person on College grounds or during College-related activities.
- Engage in sexual misconduct towards another student or person or sexually harass any other person.
- Physically touch or engage with students or others in a manner which is not appropriate and may cause physical, psychological, or mental harm or injury to that person.
- Engage in behaviours that are intimidating, abusive, disrespectful, or threatening including sexual harassment with another student or any other person.
- Send inappropriate, offensive, or explicit text messages, photos, or videos of themselves or any other person.
- Use inappropriate or profane words or gestures and images towards others.
- Bring, use, or be in the possession of, any illicit substances including alcohol, cigarettes, vape products or other drugs, prohibited or otherwise, on College grounds and at any College function.
- Be in a classroom, workshop, or gymnasium etc. unless accompanied by a teacher.
- Damage, steal or misuse any College property or the property of other students or staff.
- Enter, use, or interfere with any College property or enable, or cause, any other person to do so, without authorisation from the College.

If you are unsure about what is the right thing to do in any circumstance, you are encouraged to ask advice from a teacher.

4. Parents / Guardians

Parents / Guardians have a right to:

- Expect their children can interact and learn in a safe, positive, supportive, and welcoming environment.
- Be informed of matters regarding their children.
- Be involved in developing strategies for student behaviour.

Parents / Guardians have a responsibility to:

- Provide a safe and supportive environment in which their children can excel at the College.
- Encourage their children to follow the *Student Code of Conduct* and any other College policies, procedures, and rules.
- Be involved in building a positive school culture that fosters caring and respectful relationships.
- Be involved in their child's education and the College community.

- Collaborate with staff to ensure that their child can be provided with the best support needed including any changes to their circumstances.
- Keep up-to-date with events and notices on Parent Lounge.

Parents / Guardians have access to the Staff and Student Codes of Conduct via the College website and during enrolment.

5. Reporting Behaviour

If you are concerned about the health, safety and wellbeing of another student please have a conversation with your Head of Year. Reporting can be done verbally, written or by electronic means.

6. Discipline

The Student Code of Conduct is enforced as the minimum standard of discipline and self-discipline for every student. Behaviour contrary to the Student Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action including (but not limited to) suspension or exclusion. Students should understand that serious offences such as assault, theft, wilful damage, and other unlawful activities are likely to result in exclusion.

Students and / or parents / guardians will be given the opportunity to appeal the outcome of any disciplinary action.

In accordance with the applicable legislation and the College's Child Protection Policies, the Police and / or the Department of Communities – Child Protection and Family Support will be informed of any unlawful breaches of the Student Code of Conduct.

7. Student Complaints Process

If you have a complaint, please have a conversation with any staff member you are comfortable with, trust, or feel safe to speak to.

If the staff member is unable to resolve your issue, then you may lodge a complaint with the College.

Please refer to the Complaints Handling Policy and flowchart (on the College website). We take all reports seriously and commit to dealing with your complaint according to the College Complaints Handling Policy.

Acknowledgement

I have read, understood, and agree to adhere to the Student Code of Conduct.

Student Signature: _____

Student Name: _____

Date: _____

Parent / Guardian Signature: _____

Parent / Guardian Name: _____

Date: _____

Adopted By:	Principal, Mr Mark Ashby Date Adopted: 15/03/2018	Date Reviewed: 02/08/2022
Policy Statement Endorsed By:	Board Date Endorsed: 21/09/2022	
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