

COMMUNITY CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the school office

Rationale

Diamond Creek Primary School is committed to promoting an engaging, inclusive learning environment for all. We recognise 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 our children and young people.

All students, staff and family members have the right to be safe, and feel safe, in their school community. With this right comes the responsibility to be honest, respectful, courteous and trustworthy school community members and to be accountable for actions that intimidate or put at risk the safety of others or oneself. This includes behaviour that may be considered antisocial.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide clear and explicit guidelines for the effective development of positive and constructive relationships between all members of the school community, which detail:

- The shared school community expectations for behaviour (*as reflected in the DCPS School Values, as defined in the DCPS Statement of Beliefs, and as outlined in the DCPS Child Safe Code of Conduct*), the consequences and actions to be taken when these are not met, including both support and disciplinary measures.
- Expectations for all members of the School Community in regard to the standards of conduct that are acceptable in the school environment, or when attending any official or social function, or activity, of or relating to the school, or in any location at which the school is represented.

For the purpose of this Code of Conduct "School Community" comprises the Principal, staff, school council, parents, carers, step parents, relatives, friends, supporters and invitees of the School, who attend at the School, or elsewhere, for the purposes of visiting, viewing, participating, supporting or being present for any official, or social activity held by or for the benefit of the school and its students.

Implementation

As a minimum, all members of the school community are expected to behave with respect, civility and in the manner of a responsible school community member.

As a minimum, all school community members must:

- respect and comply with all applicable Commonwealth and State laws
- respect and comply with school values and rules
- demonstrate respect, honesty and integrity
- respect differences in people, their ideas and opinions
- treat one another with dignity and respect at all times, and especially when there is a disagreement
- respect and treat others fairly, regardless of their race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability
- respect the legal and moral rights of others
- show proper care and regard for school property and the property of others
- take appropriate measures to help those in need
- respect the need of others to work in an environment of learning and teaching
- seek staff assistance, if necessary, to resolve conflict peacefully.

As a minimum, all school community members must **not**:

- use any object (whether as a weapon or otherwise) to threaten or intimidate any other person
- cause injury to any person by the use of any such object
- be in possession of, or under the influence of, or provide others with, alcohol or illegal drugs.
- cause, inflict or encourage others to verbally abuse, threaten or inflict bodily harm on another person by any physical aggression; or through email, written communication or face to face

As well as the above, all school community members are expected to uphold the responsibilities as outlined in *the DCPS Statement of Beliefs* and the *DCPS Values*.

Any parent or other school community member who invites a relative, friend, support, carer or other person to be present at any official school activity held by or for the benefit of the school and its students must at all times be responsible for that person and ensure they act at all times in a manner, consistent with *this Code of Conduct*; the *DCPS Statement of Beliefs*, our *School Values* and our *Child Safety Code of Conduct*.

Breach of this Code of Conduct

The Principal of the school is responsible for determining what constitutes reasonable and unreasonable behaviour. The consequences to a member of the school community for breaching this *Code of Conduct* will be as determined at the Principal's absolute discretion. Advice may be sought from School Council, as deemed necessary.

These consequences include any one or more of the following:

- utilising mediation and counselling services
- alternative communication strategies being applied, such as a parent only being able to communicate with members of teaching staff through a nominated school representative
- formal notice preventing entry onto school premises or attendance at specific 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

The school may take such other steps, as it may in its reasonable discretion determine appropriate according to the nature of the breach.

In the event that a breach of this code of conduct results in actions and/or behaviours that impact the health and wellbeing of the Principal or other school leaders, School Council reserve the right to take steps as above.

Right of Appeal

This policy will apply to any decision made by the Principal, under this *Code of Conduct*, and decisions may be appealed using the school's procedures for queries, concerns and complaints, as outlined in the *DCPS Queries, Concerns and Complaints Policy*.

EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed as per the school policy review schedule.

OTHER RELEVANT DCPS POLICIES

DCPS Child Safe Policy
DCPS Acceptable Use Policy
DCPS Queries, Concerns and Complaints Policy
DCPS Community Communication Policy