

MATER DEI PARENTS AND GUARDIANS CODE OF CONDUCT

Parents and guardians are an indispensable part of a child's education. We recognise that parents and guardians are part of the school community, and have a right to participate in their child's education.

In order to balance the rights of parents and guardians, students, teachers and staff, we expect parents to uphold a certain standard of behaviour.

This standard allows children to learn, teachers to teach, and other community members to participate in education, free from harassment, violence, intimidation or vilification.

Parents and guardians should set an example for their children, and the children of others. They have shared responsibility with their children, other parents/guardians and the school to ensure that their children abide by the Student Code of Conduct.

For this reason parents/guardians are also expected to uphold the student values of Mater Dei School. Our student values are:

- Respect – for your teachers, parents/guardians, peers and members of the community;
- Kindness – towards everyone you interact with; and
- Safety – for yourself and others.

Mater Dei recognise that parents and guardians are often actively involved in the sporting and extracurricular events of their children. We encourage parents/guardians to participate in such activities and to support their children, however we also make clear that we have high expectations of parents/guardians at these events and activities.

At these events, especially sporting events, parents/guardians are expected to:

- Encourage (without forcing) their children to participate.
- Never ridicule, berate, discourage or otherwise interfere with your child or another child.
- Uphold the principles of good sportsmanship and fair play.
- Never yell, abuse or otherwise interfere with a sporting official, coach or other person.
- Never incite, encourage or commit acts of violence.
- Never use foul or abusing language.
- Never interfere in an activity.

We recognise that parents and guardians enjoy photographing and recording the progress of their child at school and on school activities. We recognise that many of you like to share these personal memories online and on social media.

We ask for your cooperation and care concerning the use and distribution of photographs of other children at our school. Some families have very real legal and safety issues which could put a child at risk if an image is made public online. More generally, it is respectful of the privacy of other members of the school community to ask permission before posting an image online. Even if your social media settings are private, it is easy for images to become public, particularly if they are tagged or shared by others.

For this reason parents/guardians are required to follow the best practice guidelines outlined in our **School Photography Guidelines for Parents and Guardians** to ensure the safety of our students and school community.

DEALING WITH THE SCHOOL

Parents and guardians are expected to deal with our teaching and non-teaching staff at all times in a way that is courteous and respectful.

Parents and guardians should only deal with teachers in accordance with our Parent Communication Policy so that teachers are able to discharge their duties without interference.

Parents and guardians should not approach or interact with the children of other parents without their permission.

SCHOOL POLICIES

Parents/guardians should support their children so that they can comply with school policies.

Parents/guardians, as members of the school community, are also expected to comply with school policies and reasonable directions including those relating to health and safety and communications with the school.

COMPLAINTS AND FEEDBACK

Mater Dei School has developed a Managing Grievance and Disputes Policy to ensure that all grievances and complaints are dealt with by the school in the appropriate manner.

Should a parent or guardian be unable to resolve an issue informally, they may lodge a complaint with the school. We commit to dealing with this complaint according to our Managing Grievance and Disputes Policy.

BREACH OF CODE OF CONDUCT

Parents/guardians are expected to follow the Parent Code of Conduct. Serious breaches of the code may lead to the withdrawal of your children from Mater Dei School.

RELATED POLICIES/STATEMENTS

Mater Dei School Wide Positive Behaviour Expectations Matrix

Mater Dei Behaviour Management Policy and Procedures

Mater Dei Uniform Policy

Mater Dei Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy and Procedures

Mater Dei Parent and Guardian Communication Policy

Mater Dei School Photography Guidelines for Parents and Guardians

Mater Dei Complaint Handling Policy

Approved at Leadership Team YES / NO / NA	Signed	Date
Approved at Board YES / NO / NA	Signed	Date
Staff Briefed YES / NO	Signed	Date
Review Date December 2018		