

## College Community Code Of Conduct

### Ethical Statement

Swan Christian College encourages, educates and equips students for faithful lives of service under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. We exist to promote a biblical view of knowledge and learning in a Christian environment and educate students to explore possibilities through a diverse curriculum

All students, parents, teachers and staff have the right to be safe and feel safe in their College community. With this right comes the responsibility to be law-abiding citizens and to be accountable for actions that put at risk the safety or wellbeing of others.

This Code of Conduct provides members of the College Community with guidelines for the effective development of positive relationships within the community and assists in promoting the values that are in keeping with the College's Mission.

### Intent

This College Community Code of Conduct sets clear standards of behaviour which are expected of members of the College Community in the College environment or when attending any College related function or activity at any other location.

The Code specifies the consequences for any member of the College Community who does not comply with these standards of behaviour.

### Scope

For the purpose of this Policy 'College Community' comprises the Principal, staff, coaches, employees, students, parents, guardians, step-parents, relatives, friends, supporters, carers and invitees of the College, when in the College environment or when attending any College related function or activity at any other location.

Parent/Guardians and students agree to be bound by the College Community Code of Conduct when Parent/Guardians sign the Enrolment Agreement with the College. Although step-parents, relatives, friends, supporters and carers of students at the College are not a party to that Enrolment Agreement, this College Community Code of Conduct is a guide for them about expected standards of behaviour.

### Guiding Principles

The following principles provide the framework for this Code of Conduct:

- Responsible citizenship involves appropriate participation in the civic life of the College. Active and engaged members of the Community are aware of their rights but, more importantly, accept responsibility for protecting their rights and the rights of others.
- Insults, disrespect and other hurtful acts are disruptive and are a direct contradiction of the College's Mission and Values.
- Members of the College Community have a responsibility to develop and maintain an environment where conflict and difference can be addressed in a manner characterised by respect, civility and dignity.

## **Parental Role**

Parent/Guardians play an important role in the education of their children and have a responsibility to support the efforts of the College in maintaining a safe and respectful learning environment for all students. Parents fulfill this responsibility when they:

- Show an active but non-invasive interest in their child's College work and progress.
- Communicate regularly with the College.
- Help their child be neat, appropriately dressed and prepared for College.
- Ensure that their child attends College regularly and punctually.
- Promptly report to the College their child's absence or late arrival.
- Become familiar with the College Community Code of Conduct and College rules.
- Encourage and assist their child in following the standards of behaviour.
- Work with the College in dealing with disciplinary issues involving their child.

## **Standards of Behaviour**

### **College Community members must:**

- Accept that the use of swearing, derogatory terms, sexual jokes, innuendo and other inappropriate language in the College environment or around students will not be tolerated.
- Ensure that their relationships with students are strictly in accordance with appropriate roles and that favouritism and special treatment are avoided.
- Ensure that physical contact with students is appropriate given the age of, and relationship with the student such that questions of impropriety do not arise.
- Respect and comply with all applicable Commonwealth and State laws.
- Demonstrate honesty and integrity.
- Respect diversity in people, their ideas and opinions 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 and treat them with dignity, civility and respect at all times, and especially when there is a disagreement.
- Show proper care and regard for College property and the property of others.
- Take appropriate measures to help those in need.
- Support the College in the development of a Christ-centred learning community.
- Support the College's Policies.
- Acknowledge that the Principal is responsible for implementing the College's Policies
- Work with the College to deal promptly with areas of concern.
- Acknowledge and affirm success in individual and College achievement.
- Seek staff assistance, if necessary, to resolve conflict peacefully.

### **College 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.
- Verbally abuse, threaten or inflict bodily harm on another person by any physical aggression or encourage others to do so.
- Be in possession of, or under the influence of, or provide others with, alcohol or illegal drugs. The exception is when, in the normal course of events, the College provides hospitality to members or guests of the College Community in keeping with appropriate legal and hospitality regulations.

### **Extra Curricular Activities**

- College Community members are expected to comply with the following principles when attending extra-curricular activities.
- Young people are involved in extra-curricular activities principally for their enjoyment.
- Young people should always be encouraged to abide by the rules.
- Young people should be taught that honest effort is as important as victory, so results are accepted without undue disappointment.
- Turn defeat into victory by helping young people work towards performance improvement and good sportsmanship. Never ridicule or yell at a person for making a mistake or for losing.
- Young people learn best by example. Applaud good performance by all participants in an activity.
- Do not publicly question the referee's or official's judgment and never their honesty.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from extra-curricular activities.
- Recognise the value and importance of volunteer coaches, managers and officials. They give of their time and resources to provide recreational activities for all students.
- Do not approach a referee or official at any stage during or immediately after an event, except in appreciation.

### **Responsibility for Guests**

Any College Community member who invites a relative, friend, supporter, carer or other person to be present at any College related function or activity at any location must be responsible for that person and must ensure that they act at all times in a manner consistent with this Code of Conduct.

### **Breaches Of This Code Of Conduct**

The consequences to a member of the College Community for breaching this Code of Conduct will be determined by the Principal in accordance with the Swan Christian College Complaints Policy and may include one or more of the following:

- The College may ban any member of the College Community from attending any Extra - curricular activity.
- The College may ban any member of the College Community from being on the College grounds in general.

- The College may direct that any parent may only communicate with members of staff through a nominated College representative.
- In the case of extreme or prolonged breach of this Code of Conduct by a parent, the College may terminate the enrolment of the child of that parent.
- The College may take such other steps as it may in its reasonable discretion determine appropriate according to the nature of the breach.

### **Right Of Appeal**

The right of appeal will apply to any decision made by the Principal under this Code of Conduct. The Policy is accessible on, and can be downloaded from, the College's website.

### **Policy Type**

This is an Operational policy.

This policy applies to all members of the College Community.

**Date for review: 1 January 2018**