



# College Community Code of Conduct

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## 1. COLLEGE VALUES

The Lakes College is engaged in the fundamental task of forming and informing young minds and hearts. In promoting the good news of Jesus Christ among students, families and staff members, gospel values are central to all that we seek to do:

- **Faith** – Loving God and our neighbours as ourselves
- **Hope** – Fostering a positive, optimistic and empowering environment
- **Love** – Demonstrating support, encouragement and compassion to all
- **Courage** – Developing resilience and determination to succeed
- **Community** – Fostering respect and tolerance through working together in service for others
- **Justice** – Celebrating diversity through demonstrating inclusivity and care for the community

All students, parents, teachers and staff have the right to be safe and feel safe in their school 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 College community and assists in promoting the values that are in keeping with the College's Mission.

## 2. 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.

## 3. SCOPE

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

Parents/guardians and students agree to be bound by the College Community Code of Conduct when parents/guardians sign the Enrolment Agreement with the College. Although other members of the community are not a party to that Enrolment Agreement, this College community Code of Conduct is a guide for them about expected standards of behaviour.

## 4. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

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

- Responsible citizenship involves appropriate participation in the 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.
- Behaviour which is insulting, disrespectful and hurtful are in conflict with the Mission and Values of The Lakes College.
- 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.

## 5. PARENTAL ROLE

Parents/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 fulfil this responsibility when they:

- Show an active but non-invasive interest in their child's school work and progress;
- Communicate regularly with the College;
- Help their child be dressed appropriately and prepared for school and learning;
- Ensure that their child attends school regularly and arrives 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 and expectations as outlined in the Parent Handbook;
- Encourage and assist their child in following the behavior expectations of the College;
- Work collaboratively with the College in dealing with disciplinary issues involving their child;
- Communicate respectfully with school teachers, other College employees and other members of the College community.

## 6. STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOUR

**All members of The Lakes College community are expected to:**

- Support the College ethos in the development of a Christian learning community;
- Understand that the use of swearing, derogatory terms, sexual jokes, innuendo and other inappropriate language in the College environment or around students is unacceptable;
- 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 the ideas and opinions of others 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 all members of the community and treat them with dignity, civility and respect at all times including times when opinions differ;
- Demonstrate proper care and respect for College property and the property of others;
- Take appropriate measures to help those in need;
- Support the College policies;
- Acknowledge that the Principal is responsible for implementing the College policies;
- Work collaboratively and respectfully 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; and
- Be inclusive not exclusive.

**College community members must not:**

- Use inappropriate language in any context;
- 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 or permits hospitality to members or guests of the College community in keeping with appropriate legal and hospitality regulations; or

- Use social media to bring the College into disrepute by commenting on College policies or other members of the College community.

## **7. 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 a game or match;
- 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 judgement and never his/her 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; and
- Do not approach a referee or official at any stage during or immediately after an event, except in appreciation.

## **8. RESPONSIBILITY FOR GUESTS**

Any College community member who invites a relative, friend, supporter, carer or other person to be present at any school 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.

## **9. 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 and may include one or more of the following:

- The College may ban any member of the College community from attending any co - curricular and/or extra - curricular activity;
- The College may ban any member of the College community from entering College grounds;
- The College may direct that parent communication with members of staff may only be 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/children of that parent;
- The College may take disciplinary action against a staff member who is in breach of this Code of Conduct and/or
- The College may take other steps according to the nature of the breach including seeking legal advice or contacting the police.

**Date for Review: January 2018**