

Clonard College Parent-School Code of Conduct



Introduction: At Clonard College we are committed to nurturing respectful relationships and active partnerships with you as parents/carers/guardians (Note: in this document we use the term 'parent' to refer to parents/carers/guardians). We believe that our students' learning journeys are enriched through positive and reciprocal home and school relationships.

As parents, you act as one of the most influential role models in your child's life. We therefore seek your support in promoting and upholding the core values of the school community and its culture of respectful relationships within a Catholic faith tradition.

This Code of Conduct is intended to guide your interactions and communications with staff, other parents, students and the wider school community. It articulates the school's key expectations of both staff and parents with regard to respectful relationships and behaviours. It also specifies the school's position with regard to unacceptable behaviours that breach our culture of respect.

This Code of Conduct is to be read in conjunction with the following school documents:

- Occupational Health and Safety Policy
- Complaints Policy and procedure
- Child Safe Policy

Our Culture of Respectful Relationships: Among students, staff and parents we strive to develop the following:

- a respect for the innate dignity and worth of every person
- an ability to understand the situation of others
- a cooperative attitude in working with others
- open, positive and honest communication
- the ability to work respectfully with other people
- trusting relationships
- responsible actions.

In promoting and upholding this culture, we expect that staff will:	In promoting and upholding this culture, we expect that parents will:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support the school's Catholic ethos, traditions and practices • communicate with you regularly regarding your child's learning, development and wellbeing • welcome involvement in your child's learning • maintain confidentiality over sensitive issues • adhere to the school's policies and procedures, as outlined • relate with and respond to you in a respectful and professional manner • ensure a timely response to any concerns raised by you. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support the school's Catholic ethos, traditions and practices • support the school in its efforts to maintain a positive learning and teaching environment • understand the importance of healthy parent/teacher/child relationships and strive to build positive relationships • adhere to the school's policies and procedures, as outlined on the school website, student diary and enrolment documents • treat staff and other parents with respect and courtesy

Raising Concerns and Resolving Conflict: (Refer also to our Complaints Policy) In raising concerns on behalf of your child, or making a complaint about the school's practices or treatment of your child, we expect that you will:

- listen to your child, but remember that others may provide a different perspective;
- observe the school's stated procedures for raising and resolving a grievance/complaint;
- follow specified protocol for communication with staff members, including making appointments at a mutually convenient time and communicating your concerns in a constructive manner;
- refrain from approaching another child while in the care of the school to discuss or chastise them because of actions towards your child. Refer the matter directly to your child's teacher for follow-up and investigation by the school.

In responding to your concerns or to a complaint, **we expect that staff** will:

- observe confidentiality and a respect for sensitive issues
- ensure your views and opinions are heard and understood
- communicate and respond in ways that are constructive, fair and respectful
- ensure a timely response to your concerns/complaint
- strive for resolutions and outcomes that are acceptable to all parties.

Safety and Wellbeing: The school places high value and priority on maintaining a safe and respectful working environment for our staff. We regard certain behaviours as harmful and unacceptable insofar as they compromise the safety and professional wellbeing of our staff. These behaviours include, but are not limited to:

- shouting or swearing, either in person or on the telephone
- physical or verbal intimidation
- aggressive hand gestures
- writing rude, defamatory, aggressive or abusive comments to/about a staff member (emails/social media)
- racist or sexist comments
- damage or violation of possessions/property.

When an adult behaves in unacceptable ways, the Principal or a senior staff member will seek to resolve the situation and repair relationships through discussion and/or mediation. Where a parent's behaviour is deemed likely to cause ongoing harm, distress or danger to the staff member and others, we may exercise our legal right to impose a temporary or permanent ban from the parent entering the school premises. In the event of violence (or threats thereof) or harm to any staff member and his/her property, the matter may be reported to the police for investigation.

Approved, 14 November 2019.

Implemented, October 2019. To be reviewed September 2021