

Catholic Schools - School Community Code of Conduct

Section 1 - Purpose

(1) The purpose of the School Community Code of Conduct is to foster a respectful, collaborative and faith centered partnership between parents, carers, students and Catholic school communities that supports learning, wellbeing and shared responsibility.

Section 2 - Scope

(2) The School Community Code of Conduct applies to parents, carers and students of schools across the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle (the Diocese).

Section 3 - Expectations and Responsibilities

Parents/Carers in Catholic school communities agree to:

(3) Understand and abide by all diocesan policies, procedures and guidelines, which are available in the [Diocesan Policy Library](#).

(4) Model positive behaviour to their child and all children in the school community.

(5) Ensure children attend school on time, every day the school is open for instruction.

(6) Take an active interest in their child's school and their learning and to engage positively in all aspects of their child's learning.

(7) Participate in the Liturgical and Faith Life community of the school including participation in all aspects of the Religious Studies program regardless of personal beliefs.

(8) Work in a positive manner with the school to achieve the best outcomes for their child.

(9) Communicate constructively, respectfully and in a spirit of partnership with the school and use processes and protocols outlined in the [Complaints Resolution Policy](#) and [Complaints Resolution Procedure](#) when raising concerns. These documents are available in the [Diocesan Policy Library](#).

(10) Communicate with their child's teacher or the Principal directly regarding any concerns about their child, other students, staff or community members.

(11) Reject aggressive, abusive and confrontational language and behaviour, as this is counterproductive to the sustainability of any relationship. Approaching students, community members and/or school workers in a confronting manner will not be tolerated.

(12) Support all school workers to maintain a safe learning environment for all students.

(13) Treat all school workers, students, other members of the school community, visitors and volunteers with respect in all dealings with them both personally and through the use of all social media technologies at all times.

(14) Not engage in hate speech defined as intentionally inciting racial hatred in public that would cause a reasonable person who was the target of the incitement of hatred to fear harassment, intimidation or violence or fear for the reasonable person's safety. For the purposes of this clause, it is irrelevant whether the person engaging in the conduct has been charged with or convicted of any offence arising from the conduct.

(15) Discuss with the Principal any barriers to meeting the financial obligations agreed to at the time of enrolment and seek to form an agreement with the school to meet these.

(16) Ensure any agreement made with the school is honoured.

Students in Catholic school communities agree to:

(17) Respect and support our Catholic identity and culture.

(18) Recognise the importance of Religious Education for all students and participate in the liturgical and religious aspects of the school.

(19) Abide with and follow all school rules and applicable policies, including complying with reasonable direction from school staff.

(20) Model positive behaviour to other students.

(21) Comply with and model school values.

(22) Behave in a safe and responsible manner.

(23) Respect themselves and other members of the school community; spiritually, personally, physically and emotionally.

(24) Always use social media and technologies in a positive and respectful manner.

(25) Respect our school environment.

(26) Actively participate in our school community.

(27) Support the learning of others and make the most of our educational opportunities.

Section 4 - Document Review

(28) The School Community Code of Conduct will be reviewed at least every 3 years to ensure it continues to be current and effective.

Status and Details

Status	Current
Effective Date	27th November 2025
Review Date	27th November 2028
Approval Authority	Director Catholic Schools
Approval Date	7th November 2024
Expiry Date	To Be Advised
Unit Head	Jacqueline Wilkinson Director Catholic Schools
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