



A Code of Conduct for Parents

A parent* plays a formative role in the development of a child's sense of justice, equity and worth. They are one of the most influential role models within a child's life. This Code of Conduct is to help us strive to build a harmonious community where students can flourish.

Our Christian and Petrine Values

We are called to emulate Jesus' call to love God and to love each other. We look to the values taught to us in Scripture and the Christian tradition to guide us. We look to the charism of St Peter to guide us in the way we build and maintain relationships at St Peter's College. We set out always to strengthen the three pillars upon which our community is built – *Faith, Education and Service*.

As members of St Peter's College community, we value:

- A non-judgemental and welcoming attitude towards all people.
- An ability to understand the situation of others.
- A co-operative attitude in working with others.
- Open, positive and honest communication.
- The ability to work respectfully with other people.
- Trusting relationships.
- Responsible actions.

As a member of St Peter's College community you are expected to:

- Support in words and deeds the philosophy of Catholic Education.
- Demonstrate that both parents and St Peter's College staff work together for the benefit of the child.
- Adhere to St Peter's College and Diocese of Sale Catholic Education Limited (DOSCEL) policies, as outlined on the school website.
- Support the school in its efforts to maintain a positive teaching and learning environment.
- Maintain a positive and co-operative attitude and interact positively with other parents and members of the St Peter's College community.
- Support the St Peter's College policy on drugs and alcohol by not engaging in smoking or consuming drugs or alcohol on school premises or attending school activities or functions whilst drug or alcohol affected.
- treat staff and other parents with respect and courtesy.

Parent rights:

- To be treated with respect and courtesy by staff, students and other parents/caregiver.
- To be listened to, and clearly communicated with by St Peter's College, concerning your child's education and development.
- To have a timely response to concerns raised.

Parent responsibilities:

- Value and champion St Peter's College and its reputation. Be mindful of the hurt and damage social media may cause to staff members, students and other parents.
- Under no circumstances approach another child whilst in the care of the school to address, discuss or interact with them because of actions towards your own child.
- Respect the rights of staff members and other individuals.
- In any correspondence, e-mail or otherwise, ensure the language is respectful at all times and allow a suitable period of time for a reply. Staff are not expected to reply to emails after 4.30pm or on weekends.
- Ensure any contact with a staff member regarding school matters electronically is via the official staff email address.
- Follow the correct procedures set out by St Peter's College to resolve a conflict or make a complaint.
- As valued members of the St Peter's College community you are encouraged to attend school events.

Staff Safety and Wellbeing:

St Peter's College 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 (eg. emails/social media);
- use language which would be considered racist, sexist, homophobic or discriminatory on religious or gender grounds.; and
- damage or violation of possessions/property.

Common Law Consequences

When a parent/guardian behaves in such unacceptable ways, the Principal or a Deputy Principal will seek to resolve the situation and repair relationships through discussion and/or mediation.

Where a parent/guardian behaviour is deemed likely to cause ongoing harm, distress or danger to the staff member and others, St Peter's College may exercise our legal right to impose a temporary or permanent ban from the parent/guardian entering the school premises. This is commonly known as a Trespass notice

In a matter which causes physical harm to a staff member or his/her property, the matter may be reported to the police for investigation. In this situation, whilst the act is being investigated the party who allegedly caused harm and/or damage will be barred from entering the school property and/or attempt to make contact with the staff member involved. The school reserves the right to pursue other legal avenues.

Definitions:

Parent in this context refers to the biological parents, legal guardian or primary carer of a student enrolled at St Peter's College

Related Policies:

Behaviour Management
Complaints Resolution
ICT Student Agreement
Staff Code of Conduct
Student Rights and Responsibilities

Parent/guardians accept this Code of Conduct when signing and accepting the school's policies in the Enrolment Application Form and by the act of accepting enrolment at St Peter's College.