



FERNTREE GULLY NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY CODE OF CONDUCT

RATIONALE:

All students, parents, teachers and staff have the right to be safe, and feel safe, in their school community. The School Community Code of Conduct sets clear standards of behaviour, which are expected of members of the School Community. As all members of the school community have a right to an environment free from harassment and to converse comfortably in a positive and co-operative manner. It specifies the consequences for any member of the School Community who does not comply with those standards of behaviour, whether those persons are on the School's property, in transit or at another location, acting as an advocate for the school.

AIMS:

We define our community as the immediate and extended families of students attending the school and friends of the school including local residents, businesses, and organisations, the staff, past students and other schools.

The purpose of this policy is to define expectations of acceptable behaviour for members of the community when interacting with each other within and outside the school environment, or when attending any official, social or sporting functions in any location where the school is represented.

IMPLEMENTATION:

As a Parent and Guardian we ask that you:

- Support your child/ren in all educational endeavours by giving praise and showing interest in school activities
- Help your child/ren to understand that giving your best effort is important
- Demonstrate that both parents and teachers work together for the benefit of the child/ren
- Listen to your child/ren, but be mindful there may be other information that is relevant
- Understand the importance of a healthy parent/teacher/child triangle and communicate any concerns to your child's teacher in a constructive manner
- Adhere to the school's policies, as outlined on the school website



- Work in co-operation with the school to address any unacceptable behaviour shown by your child/ren
- Support the school in its efforts to maintain a positive teaching and learning environment
- Maintain a positive and co-operative attitude
- Inform the school of any issues that impact on your child's wellbeing

Parent/Guardian Rights

- To be treated with respect and courtesy by others
- To be treated in a polite manner
- To be respected by staff and students
- To have a timely response to concerns raised
- To be treated with professionalism from all staff members
- To be listened to and clearly communicated with, in regard to their child's education

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

- Use respectful language towards all staff and other members of the school community
- Remain calm and polite when communicating with staff and other members of the school community
- Under no circumstances approach another child whilst in the care of the school to discuss or chastise them because of actions towards their own child/ren
- Be aware that events have many sides, be prepared to listen to them and seek to verify facts before stating a concern
- Be mindful of what you say in order to respect the reputation of teachers



- Respect teachers' preparation time before or after school to make an appointment at a mutually convenient time if you wish to speak to a teacher
- Do not discuss any grievances in front of your child/ren regarding the school
- On excursions, helping in class or on camps, parents must follow the instructions and wishes of the teacher
- Comply with and model school values / PITW Virtues

UNREASONABLE BEHAVIOURS

Behaviours that are considered inappropriate on and adjacent to school grounds or in relation to school business and that do not uphold the principles of this Statement of Values include when a person:

- is rude, aggressive or harasses others
- sends rude, confronting or threatening letters, emails or social media.
- is manipulative or threatening
- speaks in an aggressive tone, either in person or over the telephone
- makes sexist, racist or derogatory comments
- uses social media inappropriately as a forum to raise concerns/make complaints against the school or staff.
- uses social media to defame a person, staff member or the school by spreading information that damages their reputation, or can make others think less of them.
- is physically intimidating.

CONSEQUENCES:

Principals are responsible for determining what constitutes reasonable and unreasonable behaviour. This policy sits along side our Statement of Values and consequences for unreasonable behaviour, and a failure to uphold the principles of this Statement of Values may lead to further investigation and the implementation of appropriate consequences. This may include:



- utilising mediation and counselling services
- alternative communication strategies being applied
- formal notice preventing entry onto school premises or attendance at school activities. Written notice will follow any verbal notice given
- Reporting to appropriate authorities

By agreeing to meet specified standards of positive behaviour, everyone in our school community can be assured that they will be treated with fairness and respect. In turn, this will help to create a school that is safe and orderly, where everyone is empowered to participate and learn.

CONCERNS:

If a parent/guardian has a complaint, criticism or concern, the following steps should be undertaken.

- Speak to the classroom teacher or a school leader first and try to resolve the concern with mutual respect and clear communication.
- Make an appointment to see the Principal/Assistant Principal.
- The Principal/Assistant Principal may arrange a meeting with you or between the two parties involved in an attempt to mediate and find resolution. It is important to note that criticism regarding a staff member will only be heard if it is related to their professional conduct.
- Follow Department of Education and Training Parent Complaints Policy process.
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/community/Pages/parentcomplaints.aspx>

REVIEW CYCLE AND EVALUATION

This policy was last updated in May 2019 and is scheduled for review in May 2023.

Ferntree Gully North Primary School



111 Forest Road, Ferntree Gully 3156 Telephone (03) 97581662

Fax (03) 9752 3056

ferntree.gully.north.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

www.ferntree.vic.edu.au