



In Christ We Grow

NEPEAN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Student Code of Conduct

[Redacted]			
1.0	Cameron Nunn	Creation	20/3/2021

We believe

- That as a community grounded in Christian faith and committed to modelling Christian values, we expect that to be lived out in the conduct of students;
- That school should be a safe haven for all, where students are loved, treated with dignity and valued as being made in the image of God;
- All people are, by their nature sinful. and the inclination of the human heart is always towards self. Therefore, we understand that children will not always act in accordance with what they know to be right, and will need correction, encouragement and means of restoration;
- In the transformative power of the Holy Spirit to work in the life of believers to make them more like Jesus.

Therefore we will

- Establish high expectations of behaviour that enable students to clearly understand their responsibilities;
- Enact clear disciplinary procedures that promote understanding of expectations, appropriate consequences and where possible, pathways to restoration;
- Seek the welfare and benefit of both the individual and the community;
- Expect students to show kindness and respect to others in the community;
- Encourage students to voluntarily make good choices rather than simply follow rules;
- Seek to lead children towards true repentance and a life committed to serving others by following Christ.

Preamble

The *Student Code of Conduct* sets out, in broad terms, the behavioural expectations of the school. It focuses on how students should behave rather than how the school deals with misbehaviour. It therefore must be read in conjunction with the school's *Discipline Policy*.

As a Christian school, our school should reflect essential Christian virtues of love, kindness, respect, integrity and honesty. Our intention is not just that students should follow rules but they should respond to others in ways that enhance the community. For this reason, we emphasise the four principles of **Wisdom, Happiness, Obedience and Kindness (WHOK)**. **Wisdom** is about making good choices. **Happiness** is not personal happiness but being generous-hearted and seeking to bring happiness to others. Students should be **obedient** to what they know is the right thing to do. They should be filled with **kindness** towards others, not only their friends but also those around them. WHOK serves as an overview of the whole of *Student Code of Conduct*.

We recognise that children will make mistakes. Discipline is therefore a vital part of keeping children safe. Discipline is intended to be directive rather than just punitive. At its heart is the opportunity to redirect a student to make good choices and to restore broken relationships. However, discipline must also take into account the welfare of the community. According to the severity of the misbehaviour, the school will invoke the removal of privileges, detentions,

suspensions and in cases of severe or persistent misbehaviour, the termination of an enrolment.

Our school seeks to work in partnership with parents. A Code of Conduct can only be effective when the values of the home reflect the values of school. We therefore seek to be transparent in our expectations and communicate with parents in a timely manner where there are concerns. The expectation is that parents will actively support the *Student Code of Conduct* and the disciplinary decisions of the school.

The *Student Code of Conduct* has three focus areas:

- **Students will act wisely, respectfully and obediently**
- **Students will seek to love and serve others**
- **Student will actively commit to learning**

Students will act wisely, respectfully and obediently

This will look like:

- Following instructions from those in authority in a timely manner;
- Not arguing with teachers;
- Speaking in a respectful manner;
- Communicating honestly;
- Modelling appropriate behaviour both in and out of school, including when travelling to and from school;
- Not damaging school property or equipment;
- Wearing school uniform exactly as set out in the Uniform Guidelines;
- Follow the school's policies and instructions regarding the use of mobile phones and other technology;
- Not smoking (including vaping), taking non-prescribed drugs or consuming alcohol;
- Not engaging in any behaviour that might bring discredit to the school;
- Not engaging in any illegal behaviour;
- Not bringing banned items to school including weapons, drugs, alcohol or smoking items, material of an offensive nature or other non-permitted items as communicated from time to time;
- Staying within bounds;
- Engaging in the whole life of the school, including all events and activities.

Students will seek to love and serve others

This will look like:

- Acting with kindness and generosity towards others;
- Seeking to protect the vulnerable, especially younger children;
- Treating others in ways that build up community;
- Being respectful of the property of others;
- Not engaging in, or ignoring, bullying or unkindness when it occurs;

- Remembering that words can be harmful or healing and therefore not engaging in name-calling, unkindness, gossip or slander;
- Never using physical force against another;
- Not threatening or intimidating others;
- Not speaking in a vulgar, obscene or offending manner;
- Not engaging sexual behaviours;
- Not engaging in online behaviours that hurt or offend others;
- Being willing to forgive others and restoring broken relationships;
- Respecting the views of others and engaging generously in discussion;
- Respecting diversity, valuing the personhood of the individual even when there are differences that cannot be easily reconciled;
- Reporting concerns for the welfare of yourself or others in a prompt and appropriate manner.

Student will actively commit to learning

This will look like:

- Striving to apply yourself to all learning activities, to the best of your ability;
- Attempting all tasks including homework as instructed by the teacher;
- Arriving at class promptly;
- Coming to class prepared to learn with the correct equipment, including a fully charged laptop in high school;
- Using technology according to the school's Acceptable Use policy;
- Expressing points of view respectfully towards the teachers and other students;
- Being respectful of the learning needs of others by not disrupting their learning;
- Being open-minded and being willing to consider alternative perspectives;
- Being respectful of Christian faith, even where there are disagreements.

When things go wrong

Students need to:

- Report concerns immediately
- Speak honestly

The school will enact the *Discipline Policy* in response to breaches of the *Student Code of Conduct*. This may include detentions, suspensions and the termination of enrolment (expulsions) for serious or persistent breaches of the code.

The school is committed to the process of procedural fairness as set out in the *Discipline Policy*. If a member of the school community has reason to believe that the school has not acted with procedural fairness, they should follow the steps set out in the school's *Grievance Policy*.