



LUTHERAN SCHOOL WAGGA WAGGA

PARENTAL CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Introduction

Lutheran School Wagga Wagga aims to provide an open, welcoming, inclusive and safe environment for all. We believe that parents and caregivers are valuable contributors and participants in the life of the School.

Lutheran School bases its relationship with parents and caregivers on respect for each other. It is important for our community to recognise and appreciate diversity, to value the contributions of others and to cooperate with and care for others.

Lutheran School strives to develop a sense of community. We aim to promote partnerships between all members of our community and to encourage positive interaction, respecting the rights and responsibilities of all.

This Parental Code of Conduct outlines the way in which our school community requires all parents, caregivers and family members to conduct themselves when visiting the School, participating in school activities and communicating with members of the school community (including students, school staff, other parents and visitors to the School). The Code has been developed so that parents, and those with parental responsibilities, are aware of and meet the School's expectations with regard to their interaction with the School, its teachers, other parents/caregivers and students. Adherence to this Code is important to promote positive and productive relationships within the school community.

2. Role of the School Generally

Lutheran School is responsible for establishing and administering the policies, procedures and rules which govern the day to day operations of the School. The School will work in partnership with parents and caregivers as it carries out these responsibilities for the benefit of its students.

3. School Policies and Expectations

Parents and caregivers are expected to comply with the School's policies and reasonable directions, and support the School's decisions. They should also help their children to comply with the School's expectations regarding attendance, home learning, behaviour and uniform requirements.

4. Behaviour Learning

Lutheran School expects students to comply with its rules and not engage in behaviour which is harmful to others or is contrary to the ethos and philosophy of the School. Parents and caregivers are expected to support the School in relation to its Behaviour Learning Policy and not do anything which undermines its authority. It must be understood that in the case of minor behaviour matters, the School will be the arbiter of what took place and what are fair consequences. It will not engage in debate about the details of the conduct nor the appropriateness of the consequences.

In relation to more serious behaviour matters which may result in suspension or expulsion, the School will inform parents and caregivers of the matter and will deal with it in accordance with the School's Behaviour Learning Policy and Procedures. While parents and caregivers will be consulted, the final decision will be the School's.

5. Interaction with Staff

Parents and caregivers are to interact with school staff in a courteous and respectful manner at all times.

The School conducts regular meetings between staff and parents/caregivers at which the student's progress can be discussed. There may be other times when a parent/caregiver or staff member requests a meeting to discuss particular issues that may arise during the course of a student's schooling.

If a parent or caregiver wishes to meet with a staff member, they should make an appointment so that a mutually convenient time can be arranged. This can be done through the school office.

Parents and caregivers should never attempt to contact a staff member at their home or on their private telephone unless the staff member requests this.

Parents and caregivers also can make an appointment to see the Principal or Deputy Principal about any particular concerns they may have relating to their child.

It is important that parents and caregivers show respect for staff and not publically criticise them or seek to undermine their authority. If a parent or caregiver has a particular concern about a member of staff, they can raise it with the staff member concerned or with the Principal. However when doing so, they should observe the general rules of conduct set out in this Code.

The School has a duty of care to protect all staff and for this reason any aggressive or abusive behavior will not be tolerated.

6. Complaints

Lutheran School has a Complaints Policy to ensure that all grievances and complaints are dealt with by the School in the appropriate manner.

If a parent or caregiver has a complaint about an issue, this should be directed to the Principal or to the teacher responsible for the particular area of activity. Should a parent or caregiver be unable to resolve an issue informally, they may lodge a complaint with the School. The School commits to dealing with any complaint according to its Complaints Policy that can be viewed on the school's website.

If a parent or caregiver wishes to make a complaint, they should not use rude or abusive language. This is not productive and can make it harder to resolve concerns.

7. Interactions Generally

Communications, whether verbal or in writing, with other members of the school community whether teachers, administration staff, other parents/caregivers or students should:

- show respect, courtesy and consideration;
- not harass, bully or abuse another person;
- not use rude, insulting, aggressive or otherwise offensive language; and
- not be confrontational.

Parents and caregivers are not to speak to a child that is not their own about that child's behavior. Such concerns are to be reported to school staff.

Social media should not be used to criticise or denigrate others in the school community.

8. Sport and Activities

The school recognises that parents and caregivers are often actively involved in the sporting and extracurricular activities of their children. Parents and caregivers are welcome to attend such activities to support their children but should be aware the School has high expectations of parents and caregivers at these events.

At these events, parents and caregivers are expected to:

- encourage their child, and other children, to participate
- uphold the principles of good sportsmanship and fair play
- never yell, abuse or interfere with an official, coach or other person
- respect and celebrate the gifts and talents of children other than their own

The teachers and coaches at the School pick teams based on their view of the most appropriate selection at the relevant time. It is not appropriate for parents or caregivers to complain about the failure of their child to be picked for a particular team.

9. Separated Parents

Where students have parents that are separated or divorced, parents and caregivers should not attempt to involve the School in any parental dispute that may arise. The School is not able to make judgments on the merits of claims made by one parent against another and should not be asked to do so. Nor should it be asked to take any action which would, or is designed to, disadvantage one party. The School will, of course, observe any orders made by a Court in relation to a student or communications with parents and caregivers.

10. Failure to Observe this Code

If a parent or caregiver fails to observe this Code after being warned about a breach, the School may:

- limit access to a teacher or teachers;
- limit access to the school premises or sporting or other school events; or
- terminate the enrolment of the student.

11. Review

This Code of Conduct is developed and reviewed by the LSWW School Board. It will be reviewed from time to time but at least every three years.

12. Related Documents

- Enrolment Contract
- Complaints Policy
- Behaviour Learning Policy