PARENT/GUARDIAN CODE OF CONDUCT

Date Approved:	17 March, 2026
Approved by:	SCC Board

1. INTRODUCTION

7.1 At Shepparton Christian College (**the College**) we aim to provide Christian education for families who desire it. We invite families who are supportive of our Christ-centred vision and purpose to enter into a partnership with us. We believe our partnerships with parents/guardians contribute to the high standard of education we are able to offer students, in accordance with our Christian ethos, doctrine, and practices.

7.1 Codes of Conduct are an essential part of fostering a safe and supportive environment for students, staff, and families. This safety includes both physical and psychosocial safety.

7.1 This Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct outlines the expectations for parent and/or guardian behaviour when visiting the College campus, participating in College activities, and communicating with members of the College community (including students, staff, and other parents).

7.1 This Code of Conduct helps guide our partnership with parents and ensures a safe and welcoming environment conducive to community and learning.

2. WHEN ATTENDING THE COLLEGE

There will be times when members of Shepparton Christian College community (staff, students or Parents/guardians) wish to question or bring complaints against behaviours of persons or decisions. We recognise that despite our intentions to live Godly lives, disagreements and conflicts will arise between us.

2.1 Parents and/or guardians must:

(a) comply with all safety policies and procedures of the College.

(b) comply with relevant legal obligations and any court order;

(c) sign-in at Reception on entry to the campus;

(d) only enter a classroom with permission from a staff member;

(e) listen respectfully, in the same manner required by students and staff, when attending any kind of College assembly, presentation, class event, or public meeting;

(f) treat all parents/guardians, staff, contractors, volunteers, students,

and visitors to the College with courtesy and respect; and

(g) accept the authority of staff members and comply with any reasonable directions while on campus or at College events.

2.2 Parents and/or guardians must not:

(a) interrupt or disrupt a teacher whilst classroom instructions or learning activities are taking place;

(b) discipline or reprimand a child that is not their own for their behaviour, or attempt to advise other parents/guardians how they should discipline or reprimand their child;

(c) bully or harass parents/guardians, staff, contractors, volunteers, students, and visitors to the College; or

(d) take a photo or video recording of a child that is not their own, unless the parent/guardian of the child is present at the time and consents to the photo or video recording being taken;

(e) attend the College whilst under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

3. WHEN COMMUNICATING WITH STAFF, CONTRACTORS, AND VOLUNTEERS OF THE COLLEGE

3.1 All staff, contractors and volunteers are entitled to a safe and enjoyable work environment.

3.2 If a parent and/or guardian contacts a staff member, contractor, or volunteer in relation to a query or concern, the recipient will respond within a reasonable period of time.

3.3 In order to most effectively discuss a particular query or concern, parents/guardians wishing to speak to a staff member, contractor, or volunteer (either in person or over the phone) must make an appointment in advance.

3.4 The College's priority is the wellbeing of the students. Whilst the College will comply with court orders which bind the College, parents/guardians who have separated should have no expectation that the College will assist in relation to any family law dispute or "police" court orders on their behalf or "take sides" during family law matters.

3.5 Parents and/or guardians must:

(a) show courtesy and respect in all communications (for example, face-to-face meetings or email) with staff, contractors, and volunteers;

(b) communicate with staff, contractors, and volunteers in a clear, friendly, and open manner;

(c) refrain from sending communications that might be deemed "excessively demanding" to the school, to staff or school community members (to avoid the possibility of communications being construed as a psychosocial risk or harassment);

(d) behave in a way that respects the ethos, doctrines, and practices of Christian education as espoused by the College;

(e) respect staff decisions and follow their directions; and

(f) respect the privacy of staff, contractors, and volunteers.

3.6 Parents and/or guardians must not:

(a) raise their voice or interrupt whilst a staff member, contractor, or volunteer is trying to speak;

(b) speak to staff, contractors, or volunteers in a derogatory or offensive manner;

(c) use profane, insulting, harassing, aggressive or otherwise offensive language;

(d) take a photo, video recording, or audio recording of a staff member, contractor or volunteer without prior consent;

(e) post a photo, video recording, or audio recording of a staff member, contractor or volunteer on social media without prior consent;

(f) attempt to contact staff members at their home or through use of their personal phone number for school work-related purposes, unless the staff member has permitted such contact;

(g) assault (sexually or physically) a staff member, contractor or volunteer; or

(h) intimidate, undermine, threaten, bully, or harass staff, contractors, or volunteers.

4. WHEN COMMUNICATING WITH OTHER PARENTS

4.1 Parents and/or guardians must:

(a) speak to other parents/guardians with courtesy and respect;

(b) contribute to a positive and friendly culture within the College community;

(c) support and encourage the values, activities, and ethos of the College; and

(d) respect the privacy of other parents.

4.2 Parents and/or guardians must not:

(a) raise their voice when speaking to others;

(b) deliberately exclude a parent/guardian or purposely treat some members of the College community differently from others;

(c) speak to other parents in a derogatory or offensive manner;

(d) take a photo or video recording of another parent/guardian without their consent;

(e) post a photo or video recording of another parent/guardian on social media without consent;

(f) post a photo or video recording of a child that is not their own on social media without obtaining consent from the child's parent or legal guardian beforehand;

(g) intimidate, undermine, threaten, bully or harass other parents/guardians; or

(h) raise unfounded accusations against others;

(i) disclose the personal details of a parent and/or guardian to another person without consent.

5. WHEN USING SOCIAL MEDIA

5.1 Parents and/or guardians recognise the potential for damage to be caused, directly or indirectly, to the College and others as a result of their personal use of social media, especially in circumstances when they can be identified as a parent and/or guardian of the College.

5.2 When using social media, parents and/or guardians must:

(a) respect a person's professional and personal environment and must not harass other people online;

(b) act with integrity;

(c) make reasonable efforts to ensure that their children comply with the College's ICT Protocols;

(d) be respectful to staff, contractors, volunteers, other parents, and/or students; and

(e) never reveal confidential information relating to the College, staff

members, contractors, volunteers, other parents, and/or students at the College.

5.3 Parents and/or guardians must not post defamatory, offensive, sexually inappropriate, or other material on social media that may damage the reputation of the College.

6. WHEN MAKING A COMPLAINT REGARDING THE COLLEGE

6.1 Parents and/or guardians have the right to raise issues and concerns related to the education of their child or other matters relating to the College.

6.2 Parents and/or guardians should ensure that they raise their issues and concerns with the right person and follow the correct communication channels according to our policies and procedures. The College Grievance Policy outlines this process and is available on the College website.

6.3 When making a complaint to the College, parents and/or guardians are required to act in a manner consistent with this Code of Conduct.

7. CONSEQUENCES OF A BREACH OF THIS PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

7.1 Any parent and/or guardian, student, staff member, contractor or volunteer may notify the Principal of a possible breach of the Parent Code of Conduct.

7.2 The Principal or their representative will investigate the complaint to determine whether there has been a breach of this Code of Conduct.

7.3 If satisfied that a breach has occurred, the Principal or their representative may implement disciplinary action against the respondent, such as a warning, direction to provide an apology, direction not to enter College grounds or contact staff for a period of time under a School Community Safety Order, or termination of enrolment.

8. UPDATES TO THIS POLICY

8.1 The codes of conduct within the School may be updated from time to time in line with changing legislative requirements or as part of our standard review processes.