PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

INTRODUCTION

At Regent College, we aim to provide an open, welcoming, inclusive and safe environment for all. All students, parents, staff and volunteers have the right to be and feel safe in their school community.

The Parent Code of Conduct outlines the way in which our community require all parents and family members to conduct themselves when visiting the College, participating in College activities and communicating with members of our College community (including students, staff, other parents and visitors to the College).

As parents, you are the most important educator and first role models for your children. The choices you make and the behaviours you exhibit have a significant influence on your children. The work we do as a College for the benefit of your child is most successful when we operate in partnership between home and the College.

The Parent Code of Conduct outlines the way in which our community require all parents and family members to conduct themselves when visiting the College, participating in College activities and communicating with members of our College community (including students, staff, other parents and visitors to the College).

This Code does not attempt to provide a detailed and exhaustive list of what to do in every aspect of your involvement with the school. Instead, it sets out general expectations of the standards of behaviour required.

SCOPE

This Code applies to all adults including parents, guardians, extended family and any others while involved in activities or communication related to the College. For the purposes of this document, the term 'parent' is defined as those being responsible for the student i.e carers, legal guardians and will be used throughout the document.

CHILD SAFE COMMITMENT

The College is committed to ensuring the safety, welfare and well-being of all children and young people at the College. We are dedicated to protecting them from abuse and grooming by implementing robust policies and procedures to deter these behaviours and facilitate detection and reporting.

VALUES

At Regent College, we hold the values of respect, honesty, compassion, responsibility, and courage in high regard. As parents, it is expected of you to uphold these values and support the staff and students in following them. We believe that all individuals are created in God's image, possessing equal worth and deserving of dignity and respect. It is our expectation that all members of Regent College, including parents, exhibit these values and attitudes at all times within the college, setting a positive example with their conduct.

COLLEGE POLICIES

Parents should support their children so that they can comply with College policies. As members of the College community, parents are also expected to comply with relevant College policies and reasonable directions including those relating to health and safety, and communications with the College. Please refer to Fineprint

and Resources and Current Families for relevant policies, resources and handbooks located on the College website and Parent Lounge for more information.

SEPARATED PARENTS

The College aims to provide a positive environment for all students and parents. We expect parents to advise the College in writing of changes in living circumstances or custody arrangements with supporting legal documentation if applicable. The College will observe any orders made by a Court, which specifically references Regent College in relation to a student or communications with parents. The College will not be involved in any parental disputes and will strive to remain impartial.

ENGAGING WITH THE COLLEGE

Parents are expected to engage with our teaching and non-teaching staff at all times in a way that is courteous and respectful. This includes volunteers, visitors and other support staff. Parents should not approach or interact with the children of other parents without their permission.

DEALING WITH CONCERNS AND INCIDENTS

We expect parents to address concerns and incidents involving their children in a courteous and respectful manner with a view to achieving a fair and reasonable outcome for everyone.

When you have a concern relating to your child, we expect parents to:

- Always make initial contact with the child's classroom teacher.
- If you contact the office staff to see or speak to someone else, they will first check that you have discussed the topic with the classroom teacher.
- If you are not satisfied with the teacher's response, please contact the Deputy Principal or you may complete the online Feedback Form on the website.
- Make appointments in advance at a mutually agreed time if you wish to meet with the classroom teacher or other staff. Please understand that during school hours, teachers and staff are not always immediately available due to teaching or other work-related commitments.
- Allow staff a reasonable time to investigate and review the situation and provide feedback.
- Always approach any situation in a spirit of cooperation, understanding and genuine partnership.
- Seek to clarify all sides of the story to allow for a peaceful resolution.

We expect parents to follow the College Complaints Handling Policy and Procedures in the resolution of concerns.

USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media can be defined as how we use technology to communicate and connect with others. Despite the range of positive uses for social media, there are also several ethical and legal issues associated with its use. Many people may hold the mistaken belief that anything published online will be without legal consequence. However, parents should be aware that several potential legal liabilities may arise, particularly concerning issues about reputational damage, defamation and privacy.

Parents can ensure they abide by the law and the College's expectations by complying with the following:

- The College, its staff and members of its community should not be mentioned or discussed in a negative or defamatory way
- Photographs of students in school uniform representing the College should not be posted if they have the potential to bring negative connotations towards the College or its staff and students
- Photographs containing other students should not be posted
- Contact information of parents, staff and students should not be given to people without their express consent

COMPLAINTS AND FEEDBACK

Should a parent or guardian be unable to resolve an issue informally, they may lodge a complaint with the College. We commit to dealing with complaints according to our Complaints Handling Policy available on the College website.

BREACH OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT

The College will determine the consequences of breaching this Code of Conduct. The first step is a discussion intended to best support the parent as a member of our College community. Serious or repeated breaches may result in the following further actions by the College:

- Direction to restrict communications with members of staff.
- Exclusion from specified activities or entry to College grounds.
- Termination of the enrolment of the child of that parent, in the rare event of the partnership between the parent and the College breaking down; and/or
- Involving government authorities as required.

Any such action will be at the discretion of the Principal.

RELATED POLICIES AND DOCUMENTS

Complaints Handling Policy
Privacy Policy
Student Code of Conduct