



Student Child Safety and Wellbeing Code of Conduct

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At Strathcona Baptist Girls Grammar School we recognise that effective learning can only occur in a secure environment where the dignity, rights and responsibilities of others are known and respected and where standards and rules are fairly and consistently applied.

The Student Child Safety and Wellbeing Code of Conduct has been developed to clearly set out standards of behaviour related to child safety and wellbeing that students are expected to abide by.

The School uses a variety of strategies to consult with students when considering the Student Child Safety and Wellbeing Code of Conduct. These may include surveys, discussion groups, consultation with the student representative body or other means. For more information, refer to [Participation and Empowerment of Students Policy](#).

The School Board has approved the School's Student Child Safety and Wellbeing Code of Conduct.

Source of Obligation

Standard 3 of the Victorian Child Safe Standards and Principle 2 of the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations require the School to ensure that children and young people are made aware of their rights, including their right to be safe from harm and that they are provided with age-appropriate information about safe and respectful peer relationships.

To implement these requirements, Ministerial Order 1359 requires the School Board to develop documentation that details the strategies and actions that the School will take to, among other things, inform children and students about all of their rights, including to safety, and to recognise the importance of friendships and encourage support from peers. Our Student Child Safety and Wellbeing Code of Conduct is one of these strategies.

Responsibilities

Managing the Student Child Safety and Wellbeing Code of Conduct is a shared responsibility between students, parents/carers and the School. All students and families have ready access to support offered by teachers, Staff and School Child Safety and Wellbeing Officers.

Strathcona's Values

The Student Child Safety and Wellbeing Code of Conduct is based on the School's values.

Strathcona aspires to be a nurturing learning community that develops intellectually curious, optimistic, life-ready young women who are empowered to shape their future in a rapidly changing world. Each student is valued as an individual. The School's motto is Fortiter, Fideliter, Feliciter ('Bravely, Faithfully, Happily'). The core values of Strathcona are respect, integrity, compassion, courage and empowerment.

Students' Rights

Students have the right to:

- attend Strathcona, learn and attain knowledge;
- use School facilities and resources for learning and educational purposes;
- feel safe, protected and valued at all times in all physical, virtual and online School environments during or outside of school hours;
- be involved and freely contribute to decisions that affect their lives;
- express their views freely so long as it does not affect the rights of others;
- have their views and opinions taken seriously;
- be treated with kindness, free from bullying, discrimination and harassment;
- be taught as individuals and respected for their diversity (irrespective of their age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, cultural background, political beliefs, sexual orientation, disability and socioeconomic status);
- participate freely and be included in all educational activities, programs and events provided by the School;
- raise concerns and make complaints to the School without fear of being victimised;
- access and contribute to School policies and procedures that affect them, including this Code of Conduct
- privacy and have their personal, sensitive and health information kept confidential in accordance with the School's [Privacy Policy](#), except as otherwise provided by law;
- procedural fairness in assessments and when being disciplined;
- receive special care, support, counselling, guidance and advice for personal, social, educational, career, and vocational development.

Students' Responsibilities

Students have the responsibility to:

- uphold the core values of the School and behave in a safe and responsible manner at all times in all physical, virtual and online School environments during or outside of school hours;
- be responsible ambassadors when representing the School within the community and when on social media;
- treat others with respect and fairness;
- listen to and value the opinion of others;
- consider their responsibilities and the consequences when exercising their freedom of expression;
- respect the privacy of others;
- use School property and resources, including information and communication technology resources, cooperatively, legally, sustainably, ethically and appropriately;



- participate co-operatively in all School activities and listen to all reasonable instructions;
- achieve at their own individual level and be challenged and supported, knowing that support is available;
- be active participants in their own learning and allow others to learn without disruption or interference;
- not engage in unlawful behaviour;
- not engage in bullying, discrimination and harassment of others;
- not endanger, or potentially endanger, the physical safety or mental health of others;
- raise issues or concerns with the School in a timely manner;
- report a breach of the Code of Conduct if they reasonably believe that they have observed a breach;
- report any child safety and wellbeing concerns to a Child Safety and Wellbeing Officer, their teacher, Head of House, Year Level Coordinator or any other trusted adult;
- comply with any reasonable request or directions from the School with regard to safety or compliance with this Code of Conduct.

For more information, refer to [Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy](#), [Social Media – Student Usage Policy](#), [Cyber Safety Policy](#) and [Harassment Policy \(Student Against Student\)](#).

Consequences for Breaching the Student Code of Conduct

Students are expected to observe and uphold the above rights and responsibilities.

Students are also expected to abide by School rules and the policies of the School, as well as the directions of teachers.

A breach of this Student Code of Conduct, School rules or policy will be dealt with according to our [Student Behaviour Management \(Discipline\) Policy](#).

Raising Concerns About Safety

If a student has concerns about their safety, or the behaviour of others, it's important that they tell a trusted adult. This could be a parent or carer, a trusted teacher or a School Child Safety and Wellbeing Officer.

The School provides all students with information about and encourages them to use multiple pathways to raise child safety concerns about or at the School, including concerns about the behaviour of other students. These include informal and formal ways, an 'anonymous' way, and through external child advocacy or child safety organisations.

A child-friendly version of our [Child Safety and Wellbeing Complaints Management Policy](#), which explains these different pathways, is available on Policy Connect and maple.

Our Staff are committed to ensuring that all students feel empowered to speak up and be heard and will take all concerns raised by students seriously and ensure that the student receives ongoing support.