



Northholm Grammar

Parent/Guardian/Family Code of Conduct

This Code has been developed so that parents and those with parental responsibilities (including guardians and other family members) are aware of and meet the School's expectations with regard to their interaction with the School, its teachers, other parents and students. Adherence to this Code is important to promote positive and productive relationships within the School community.

Role of the School Generally

The School is responsible for establishing and administering the policies, procedures and rules which govern the day to day operations of the school. It is important that parents and those with parental responsibilities recognise and respect this, adhere and have their children adhere to the School's requirements including those related to academic and behavioural expectations and support these decisions.

Discipline

The 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 those with parental responsibilities are expected to support the School in relation to its discipline policy and not do anything which undermines its authority including negative comments in any digital or online chat group. It must be understood that in the case of minor disciplinary matters, the School will be the arbiter of what took place and what is a fair consequence. The school will not engage in debate about the details of the conduct for the appropriateness of the consequence.

In relation to more serious disciplinary matters which may result in suspension or expulsion the School will inform parents or those with parental responsibilities of the matter and will deal with it in accordance with the School's disciplinary policy. While parents or those with parental responsibilities will be consulted, the final decision will be the School's.

Interaction with Staff

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

If a parent or those with parental responsibilities 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 or those with parental responsibilities should never attempt to contact a staff member at their home or private phone, email or social media platform.

It is important that parents or those with parental responsibilities show respect for staff and do not publicly criticise them or seek to undermine their authority, including via social media

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

Complaints

If a parent or those with parental responsibilities have a particular concern or complaint 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 and follow the procedures set out in the Northholm Grammar Resolution of Complaints Policy. This policy can be accessed on the School Website.

If a parent or those with parental responsibilities wish to make a complaint, they should not use rude or abusive language. This is not productive and can make it harder to resolve concerns.

Interactions Generally

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

- not engage in hate speech or any activity likely to cause community unrest
- show respect, courtesy and consideration;
- not harass or bully another person;
- not use intemperate language; and
- not be confrontational.

Social media, including parent on-line chat groups should not be used to criticise or denigrate the School or others in the School community.

Sport

Parents or those with parental responsibilities are welcome to attend extra-curricular events, but should exercise restraint when supporting extra-curricular School activities students and School teams. In particular, they must not abuse, threaten or otherwise seek to intimidate a staff member, an umpire or referee a participant, or any School representatives.

The staff of the School, pick students and teams based on their view of the most appropriate selection at the relevant time. It is not appropriate for parents or those with parental responsibilities to complain about the failure of a student to be picked for a

particular event, team or sporting opportunity.

Separated Parents

Where a student has parents that are separated or divorced, parents 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 and communications with parents.

Failure to Observe this Code

If a parent or those with parental responsibilities fail 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.

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Nate Atkinson