



## **GOODNA STATE SCHOOL**

### **CODE OF CONDUCT for PARENTS AND CARERS**

The aim of this Code of Conduct is to:

1. Provide a set of general principles to guide parents/carers in all dealings with staff, students and other parents at Goodna State School
2. Communicate Goodna State School's expectations of how parents and carers are to conduct themselves on school grounds

**Goodna State School's Core Vision** is to develop and maintain collaborative and authentic partnerships, initiatives and programs to support the academic, physical, social and emotional development of all students. To achieve this, we all need to work together harmoniously and respectfully.

#### **Personal Behaviour**

As parents/carers you are our students' most influential role models. For this reason, the school expects a high standard of personal behaviour from parents when on school grounds and when communicating with staff and others.

Expectations include

1. No offensive, insulting or derogatory language or conduct on school grounds.
2. No clothing with offensive language or insignia is permitted.
3. No smoking allowed on school grounds or near school perimeter.
4. No alcohol on school grounds, and no entering school grounds if affected by alcohol or any other intoxicant.
5. Abiding by road rules in the streets around the school.
6. Not bringing any form of weapon or threatening objects onto school property.

#### **Interaction with Staff, Other Parents and Students.**

Expectations include

- Parents are expected to interact in a polite and respectful manner with staff, students and other parents at all times.
- Abusive language, harassment, and angry, insulting or violent behaviour towards anyone on school grounds are not permitted.
- No adult is to discipline someone else's child while on school grounds, or attempt to speak to another student about an issue.
- Parents with concerns must address their concerns initially to their child's class teacher or office staff, who may refer the matter to the Deputy Principals or Principal if necessary.

#### **Family disputes and Custody Matters**

School staff will not manage conflicts between estranged parents of a child. The school will abide by court-authorized custody orders, but will not 'side' with one parent against another.



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### **Appropriate Ways to Raise an Issue and What to Expect:**

If parents/carers express concerns about an issue to the school in confidence, they will be treated with courtesy and respect in order to try to resolve the matter.

Parents/carers raising a concern should state the concern in concise terms and allow the school to investigate the matter in order to understand the circumstances more fully.

Parents are not to make assumptions and judgments about other children or staff before an investigation has occurred.

The administration team and/or class teachers will not discuss details of another child's management, program or consequences with anyone other than the child's parents/carers.

### **Hostile Parent/Carer Behaviour:**

In cases of serious or repeated misconduct by a parent/carer, the school may take steps to ban that person from entry to school grounds and may, where appropriate, involve other authorities. This is permitted under Section 337 of the Education Act (Hostile Persons on School Premises) and will be enforced in cases of aggressive or threatening behaviour. It may also be enforced in other cases of parent/carer conduct that is prejudicial to the good order of the school environment or the welfare of staff or students.

### **Electronic Communication and Social Media:**

All concerns and complaints should be addressed in a respectful and civil manner. Parents and carers are advised to exercise great caution with email communication and social media (Facebook, Twitter etc.) when expressing opinions about the school or school staff. Given the nature of the internet, any comments and images posted, including 'private' conversations online, can become viral.

Please be aware that Inappropriate comments about school posted on Social Media, including those that denigrate staff or damage the professional reputation of staff or the school, as well as unproven allegations that are brought to the Principal's attention, will be referred to the legal office of the Queensland Teachers' Union and a request made for lawyers' intervention.

Any exchange or complaint, whether it is a written note, email, Facebook entry or verbal conversation, may be recorded as a 'Record of Contact' on the child's profile in Education Queensland's electronic management system, OneSchool. This profile remains as a permanent record until the child leaves the state schooling system.

### **Summary**

With this guide in place, we hope that parents and carers can work harmoniously with school staff to support Goodna State School's core values.

We look forward to sharing a positive and productive learning environment which maximises outcomes for the children of Goodna State School.



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