



2.1.4 Student Code of Conduct (Primary)

School Beliefs

South Coast Baptist College (SCBC), we aim to foster a community that encourages and exhibits behaviours and attitudes based on Christian values. Students have rights afforded to them as a member of SCBC. Similarly, students must also accept the responsibilities that are part of belonging to our community.

Introduction

- While attending school during regular hours or during school-based activities, students are expected to follow the basic rules, procedures and expectation described in this Code of Conduct.
- This Code of Conduct give students notice of general conduct which is prohibited. It is not an exhaustive list of misconduct. Students will be held accountable for their misconduct and misconduct may be subject to disciplinary action by the school as stated in the Primary Handbook and the Behaviour and Discipline Policy.
- SCBC is committed to ensuring a respectful learning environment that is safe, positive and supportive for all students. This Student Code of Conduct applies to all students regarding the conduct expected of them whilst at school, engaging in school related activities or representing the school. Students are expected to uphold the School's core values at all times.
- This Code applies to all activities and events that are school-related and when representing or acting on behalf of the School. The code also requires that student actions do not bring the school into disrepute at any time regardless of whether the action occurs within or outside of school activities.
- In general, the aim of this Code is to ensure that the school is a safe and pleasant place in which learning takes place, that the property and reputation of the school is protected and that students develop self-discipline and consideration for others.

Overarching Principles

Students have a right to:

- Feel safe within the school.
- Learn in a challenging environment to the best of their ability.
- Be treated with respect by other students and teachers.
- Be listened to.

Students have a responsibility to:

- Accept school Policies regarding positive behaviour.
- Act and work co-operatively with other students and teachers.
- Respect the learning needs of all students.
- Take progressive responsibility for their own learning, to work consistently and complete tasks as required.
- Be tolerant of differences such as race, culture and ability.
- Be punctual and regular in attendance.
- Discuss with parents their educational progress and to ensure that all school communication is effectively delivered.

Parents/guardians have a right to:

- Expect that their children can interact and learn in a secure environment.
- Be informed of matters regarding their children.
- Be involved in developing strategies for student behaviour.

Parents/guardians have a responsibility to:

- Encourage children to observe school rules.
- Work co-operatively with the school to solve problems.
- Provide support for teachers in implementing the Code of Conduct.
- Communicate relevant information and concerns to the school.
- Abide by the College's Parent Code of Conduct.

Behaviours Not Permitted

Disrupting and harmful behaviour

Students must not:

- Disrupt or hinder any School activities.
- Do anything which may bring the School into disrepute including by making or publishing false or misleading statements relating to the School, School staff or other students.
- Physically touch, bully or sexually engage with students or others in a manner which is not appropriate and may endanger the health, safety and wellbeing of that person.
- Engage in any form of physical or verbal violence including fighting, assault or threats of violence.
- Engage in any form of cyber bullying or cyber abuse.
- Send inappropriate, offensive or explicit text messages, photos or videos.

Dishonesty

Students must not engage in any dishonest behaviour including by:

- Stealing or taking or using without permission any property of any person or possessing property which is stolen or taken without permission.
- Using or providing false or misleading documentation or information for the purpose of obtaining a benefit or advantage for any person.
- Plagiarism – you must not present anyone else's work as if it were yours.

Safety

Students must not:

- Be in a classroom, workshop or gymnasium etc., unless accompanied by a teacher.
- Enter rooms until invited to do so by a teacher. You must line up in an orderly and quiet manner until the teacher arrives and invites you into the classroom.
- Run in corridors, through doorways, along verandahs and balconies or up and down stairways.
- Do anything which may endanger the physical or mental health, safety or wellbeing of any person.
- Possess, store or use on School premises any weapon, explosive materials, fireworks, dangerous chemicals or biological agents or other dangerous thing.

Breach of Rights

Students must not:

- Cause physical or emotional harm to any person or bully any person.
- Engage in violent or threatening behaviour including by using threatening or abusive language.
- Conduct oneself in an offensive manner or use offensive language, on or near, or within view or hearing from School premises or whilst engaged in School activities.
- Use language or conduct which is likely to offend, harass, bully or unfairly discriminate against any student, teacher, contractor or visitor.
- Use inappropriate or profane words or gestures and images.

Alcohol and Drugs

Students must not:

- Consume or distribute alcohol or any illegal drugs on School property or during a School organised event.
- Smoke or consume alcohol or illicit drugs at School, on School excursions, in transit between School and home or otherwise while wearing School uniform.
- Must not attend School, social, sporting or other functions as a representative of the School whilst under the influence of alcohol, illicit drugs or other substances harmful to health.

Property

Students must not:

- Damage, destroy, endanger, vandalise, put at risk, pollute or obstruct any School property or any property of any member of the School staff.
- Enter, occupy, use or interfere with any School property or enable any other person to do so, without authorisation from the School.
- Steal or misuse School resources or fraudulently use school resources.

Co-operation

Students must not:

- Disobey a reasonable direction given by a School staff member.

General

Students must not:

- Incite, persuade, conspire with or assist any other person to engage in misconduct.
- Attempt or threaten to do anything which is misconduct.
- Be party to any cover-up of misconduct or the destruction, concealment, alteration or withholding of any evidence of misconduct or otherwise conceal the identity or whereabouts of any person who is alleged to have engaged in misconduct.
- Publish or display material which could be understood by a reasonable person as indicating that somebody intends to engage in misconduct.

Attendance

Students:

- Shall be punctual and shall attend all of their classes.
- Who are going to be absent from school must provide explanations from their parents or guardians.
- Shall not leave the school grounds during the day, without the permission of the College.

Consequences for Breaches

South Coast Baptist College will attend to any breaches of this Code of Conduct in line with the relevant Behaviour/Discipline Policy (Primary/Secondary). These Policies explicitly forbid the use of any form of child abuse, corporal punishment or other degrading punishment. See below for definitions of these terms.

Child abuse

1. Physical abuse occurs when a child is severely and/or persistently hurt or injured by an adult or a child's caregiver.
2. Sexual abuse, in relation to a child, includes sexual behaviour in circumstances where:
 - a. The child is the subject of bribery, coercion, a threat, exploitation or violence.
 - b. The child has less power than another person involved in the behaviour.
 - c. There is a significant disparity in the developmental function or maturity of the child and another person involved in the behaviour.
3. Emotional abuse includes:
 - a. Psychological abuse.
 - b. Being exposed to an act of family and domestic violence.
4. Neglect includes failure by a child's parents to provide, arrange or allow the provision of:
 - a. Adequate care for the child.
 - b. Effective medical, therapeutic or remedial treatment for the child.

Corporal punishment

Any punishment in which physical force is used and intended to cause some degree of pain or discomfort, however light; typically involving hitting the child with the hand or with an implement; can also include, for example, forcing the child to stay in an uncomfortable position. It does not include the use of reasonable physical restraint to protect the child or others from harm.

Degrading punishment

Any punishment which is incompatible with respect for human dignity, including corporal punishment and non-physical punishment which belittles, humiliates, denigrates, scapegoats, threatens, scares or ridicules the child.

Reporting Breaches

SCBC encourages students to report breaches of the Code of Conduct to a staff member.

Whistle Blower Clause

At the request of the student, their name will not be made public when they report, breaches of the code, unless required by law, and they will not suffer any consequences by making a report.

Date Reviewed: 1/04/2021

Next Review: Term 1, 2023