**Child Safety Code of Conduct for Staff, Contractors and Volunteers**

In-line with the Child Safe Standards in Ministerial order 1359, all staff, regular contractors and volunteers are required to observe child safe principles and expectations for appropriate behaviour towards and in the company of children.

**All personnel are responsible for:**

* fully understanding and adhering to the school’s child safe policies and procedures at all times and upholding the school’s statement of commitment to child safety.
* completing the Mandatory Reporting Professional Learning Module online annually
* maintenance of a valid Working with Children’s Check (employee or volunteer status depending on the role at the school) or VIT registration
* notification to the Principal of any activity or offence which could result in a cancellation or change to the currency of the VIT/WWC card
* taking all reasonable steps to protect children from abuse and protect their human rights
* being aware of what constitutes an offence with regards to Failure to Disclose, Failure to Protect, Reportable Conduct and Grooming
* treating everyone with respect and in line with the school’s democratic principles
* listen and respond to the views and concerns of children, particularly if they communicate (verbally or non-verbally) that they do not feel safe or well or they have concerns about the safety of another person or that themselves or another have been abused
* taking action to uphold equity for all children, promote children’s safety and prevent child abuse and harm
* promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of all students, including Aboriginal students, students with culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, students with a disability, international students, students who are unable to live at home and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LQBTIQ+) students
* ensuring that one-to-one interactions between an adult and a student are to be in an open space or in line of sight of another adult.
* reporting all suspected child abuse or child safety concerns as per the Protecting Children Policy
  + involving children in making decisions about activities, policies and processes that concern them or are important to them, wherever possible

**Staff, regular contractors and volunteers must not:**

* develop any ‘special’ relationships with children that could be seen as favouritism or grooming (for example, the offering of gifts or special treatment for specific children)
* do things of a personal nature that a child can do for themselves, such as toileting or changing clothes
* engage in open discussions of a mature or adult nature in the presence of children
* use inappropriate language in the presence of children
* express personal views on cultures, race, gender or sexuality in the presence of children
* discriminate against any child or their family member, because of culture, race, gender, sexuality, ethnicity or disability
  + engage in activities or physical contact with students that is unnecessary or not justified by the educational, therapeutic, or service delivery context, and with regards to their age, abilities or needs
* engage in any activity that is likely to physically, sexually or emotionally harm a child, or any activity with or in respect of a child that is unlawful
* arrange personal contact, including online contact, with students for a purpose unrelated to approved school activities and without the permission of the parent
* show or provide children with access to inappropriate images or material including through allowing student use of personal technology devices
* work with children while under the influence of alcohol or prohibited drugs
* ignore or disregard any suspected or disclosed child harm or abuse

**Staff, contractors, board members or volunteers who have their own children enrolled at the school should treat their own child as they would other students at the school.**

**This includes a focus on**

* Avoiding engaging in activities that would be deemed parenting in nature
* Providing guidance and discipline in line with the school’s Behaviour Management Policy
* Not sharing information with their child that other students would not have, or before other students would be provided with this information

By observing these standards, you acknowledge your responsibility to immediately report any breach of this code to the Principal.

I agree to adhere to this Code of Conduct:

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| **Name** | **Signature** | **Date** |
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