



Ravenswood

Parental Code of Conduct

This Code has been developed so that parents are aware of and meet Ravenswood School for Girls' 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.

Parents agree to the following:

Role of the School Generally

1. 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 recognise and respect this, adhere and have their children adhere to the Ravenswood School for Girls' requirements, and support these decisions.

Discipline

2. 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 are expected to support the School in relation to its discipline policy and not do anything which undermines its authority. It must be understood that in the case of less serious matters, the School will be the arbiter of what took place and what is considered fair discipline. It will not engage in debate about the details of the conduct or the appropriateness of the discipline.
3. In relation to disciplinary matters which may result in suspension or expulsion, the School will inform parents of the matter and will deal with it in accordance with the School's disciplinary policy. While parents will be consulted, the final decision will be the School's.

Interactions

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

5. Parents should not attempt to contact a staff member at their home, unless the staff member has requested this and has the express permission of the Principal. Parents can also make an appointment to see the Principal about any particular concerns they may have relating to their daughter.

6. It is important that parents show respect for staff and not publically criticise them or seek to undermine their authority. If a parent has a particular concern 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. The School has a duty of care to protect all staff and for this reason any aggressive or abusive behaviour will not be tolerated.

7. If a parent has a complaint about an issue, this should be directed to the Principal or to the teacher responsible for the particular area of activity. If a parent wishes to make a complaint, they should do so in a courteous manner.

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

- a) show respect, courtesy and consideration
- b) not harass or bully another person
- c) not use intemperate language
- d) not be confrontational.

Social media should not be used to criticise or denigrate the School, the School leadership, parents, students or others in the School community.

Sport

9. Parents are welcome to attend sporting events but should exercise restraint when supporting School teams. In particular, parents should not abuse, threaten or otherwise seek to intimidate an umpire, referee or a player, or any School representatives. The Sports coaches at the School pick teams based on their view of the most appropriate selection at the relevant time. It is not appropriate for parents to complain about the failure of their daughter to be picked for a particular team.



Volunteering

10. The School values the contribution of parents with respect to volunteering. Volunteering is however considered a privilege and not a right. The School maintains its discretion in approving or declining volunteers and at all times will be the decision maker in relation to the scope and conditions of volunteering. There are legislative and policy requirements in relation to volunteering which all volunteers are expected to adhere to. If you are unclear about these requirements please contact the Principal.

Separated Parents

11. Where some students have 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. Court orders that are relevant to a student and the School should be provided to the School. If necessary, the School will place its obligation to ensure its duty of care towards enrolled students above the needs or wishes of a parent/s.

Guardian

12. The Parental Code of Conduct applies to guardians in the same way that it applies to parents. Any reference in the Parental Code of Conduct to parent/s is to be taken as a reference to guardian/s.

Failure to Observe this Code

13. If a parent fails to observe this Code after being warned about a breach, the School may:
- limit access to a teacher/s or other staff
 - limit access to the School premises or sporting or other school events
 - ban a parent from accessing or engaging with staff and/or coming to the School site, or the site of any other school activity or event
 - terminate the enrolment of the student/s.



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