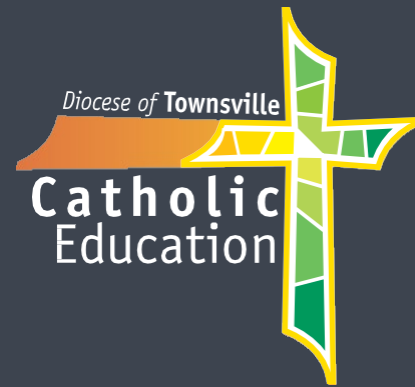


# PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

14 September 23

*“Teach Me Your Ways O Lord” (Psalm 86)*



## AIM

This document aims to provide an overview of the standard of behaviour expected of all parents and carers in our systemic Townsville Catholic Education schools.

## OUR VALUES

We are called to emulate Jesus' call to love God and to love each other. We look to the values taught in scripture and the Christian tradition to guide us: **Love, Promoting Life in Abundance, Inclusion, Reconciliation, Compassion, Justice, Liberation, Community and Hope.**

In living out these Gospel values, we strive to develop school communities with:



An inclusive approach including a non-judgemental and welcoming attitude towards all people



Open, positive and honest communication



An ability to understand the situation of others



The ability to work respectfully with other people



A co-operative attitude in working with others



Trusting relationships



Responsible actions.

## SCOPE

This Parent Code of Conduct applies to all parents and carers of children who attend Townsville Catholic Education schools in the Diocese of Townsville. As parents and carers, there is an expectation that they will work with the school, the staff and other parents to contribute to a positive and collaborative learning community.

The Code aligns with the Townsville Catholic Education Office's values and expectations. The Code stands beside but does not exclude or replace the rights and obligations of individuals under common law. It is also supported by State and Commonwealth laws and regulations ensuring good order on school sites, such as the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006* (Qld) and the *Australian Education Act 2013* (Cth). All systemic Catholic schools are private property owned by the Roman Catholic Trust Corporation for the Diocese of Townsville.

## EXPECTED CONDUCT

Parents are the most important role models for a child. Therefore, TCE expects a high standard of conduct consistent with our values from parents and carers that will contribute to a collaborative school culture. These expectations apply while on school grounds, attending school events, using social media which is related or could reasonably be connected to your role as a parent/carer at the school or communicating with staff, parents or other school community members.

We ask that parents and carers:

- Demonstrate conduct that is consistent with our values.
  - Work in partnership with the school for the common goal of achieving what is best for all.
  - Understand the importance of a healthy relationship and respectfully, constructively and appropriately communicate any concerns to your school.
  - Cooperate where their child's behaviour has not met acceptable school standards, as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct, Student Diary or similar documents and follow specified protocols for communication with staff members.
  - Discourage gossip and hearsay when communicating with the school and always model good manners for your child.
  - Maintain a positive and cooperative attitude and interact positively with other parents and school community members.
- Be mindful of the hurt and reputational damage social media may cause to staff members and other parents; ensuring the school, staff and community members should not be mentioned in a defamatory or damaging way.
  - Under no circumstances approach another parent or child whilst in the care of the school to address, discuss or chastise them because of actions towards your child.
  - Respect teachers' preparation times and schedule long discussions at a mutually convenient time. If you wish to speak to a teacher, please do not expect a meeting before school unless pre-arranged.
  - While involved in school activities, follow the instructions and directions of the teacher.
  - Participate appropriately in accordance with this Code of Conduct while attending school liturgies or special events, including sporting carnivals, interschool sports, academic and cultural events.
  - Do not smoke (including electronic cigarettes) or vape on school premises in accordance with Queensland legislation.
  - Do not attend school or school events if affected by alcohol or drugs.
  - Be familiar with and adhere to Townsville Catholic Education, Diocesan Education Council and school policies, procedures and guidelines.

## BREACHES OF THIS CODE OF CONDUCT

We trust that parents and carers contribute to a school culture of collaboration and respect. However, when there is a breach in the code of conduct, consequences may include one of the following as determined by the school principal:

- Requesting that a parent/carer cease behaviour that is in breach of this code.
- Directing that a parent/carer may only communicate with the school through a designated person.
- Banning a parent/carer from entry to the school grounds or from attending a school activity or an off-site event\*.
- In matters of a significant breach or multiple breaches, the school may terminate the enrolment of the child of that parent/carer.
- At times, it may be appropriate to involve other authorities.

**Parents accept this Code of Conduct when signing and accepting the school's policies in the Enrolment Application Form and by accepting enrolment at a systemic Townsville Catholic School.**

\*TCE Guideline SAFETY IN SCHOOLS SDS\_G037\_02/20  
Reference: ED\_C035/09/23