

Our vision is that the students we work with receive a high-quality personalised education that inspires them to reach their potential and prepare them to live constructive, socially connected, and personally satisfying lives. Our student-centred approach empowers young people to be change ready, learning ready and future ready.

The Parent Code of Conduct is intended to support David Scott School parents and guardians to identify and resolve issues of conduct that may arise at school. It is designed to guide parents/guardians in their dealings with other parents, the school and the wider community. The Code is written as a set of general principles rather than detailed prescriptions that are in line with the David Scott School values and expectations. The Code stands beside but does not of course exclude or replace the rights and obligations of individuals under common law.

The David Scott School is a complex organisation comprising a diversity of populations that have different relationships to one another. It is essential in a school community that all members recognise and respect not only their own rights and responsibilities but also the rights and responsibilities of other members of the community and those of the school itself.

As a parent/guardian, you play a formative role in the development of your student's sense of justice, equity, and worth of all members of the school community. You also act as one of the most influential role models within your student's life. It is the expectation of the David Scott School that all school community members uphold these core values of the school community by demonstrating acceptable behaviour within the school.

Our Values

INDIVIDUALITY	Working in harmony with others and appreciating diversity
EQUALITY	Speaking and acting with fairness, free from bias and giving opportunity to all
READINESS TO LEARN	Maintaining an openness to gaining the knowledge and skills to be a lifelong learner and a productive 21st Century global citizen
ACCOUNTABILITY	Being someone who gives their personal best and is willing to accept responsibility for what they do

Rights and Responsibilities

A parent/guardian should:

- Support your student in all their educational endeavours by giving praise and showing interest in their school activities.
- Help your student to discover that it is often the process that is experienced rather than the end product that makes it all worthwhile.
- Help your student to understand that giving of your very best is what matters rather than always comparing yourself against the capabilities of others.
- Demonstrate that both families and staff work together for the benefit of the student.
- Listen to your student as they tell you their version of events but remember that a different version may possibly exist elsewhere.
- Under no circumstances approach another student whilst they are in the care of the school to discuss or chastise them because of their actions towards their own student. (Such an approach to the student may be seen to be an assault on the student and may have legal consequences)

- Approach the Class Teacher or Principal to seek their intervention in bringing about an equitable and peaceful solution to any unresolved situation.

With respect to their obligations to the David Scott School, a parent or guardian should:

- Be aware of the practice and processes of the David Scott School.
- Adhere to the school's policies, and endeavour to support in the home, the work that is done in the school.
- Co-operate where the student's behaviour has overstepped accepted school standards and follow specified protocol for communication with staff members.
- Support the school in its efforts to maintain a positive teaching and learning environment.

With respect to their obligations to staff, parents, and other individuals, a parent or guardian should:

- Expect to be treated with respect and courtesy by other parents and staff.
- Conduct themselves in a way that is in keeping with the values adopted by the school.
- Endeavour to maintain a positive and co-operative attitude.
- Endeavour to protect each other's good name, by attempting to resolve issues using calm and respectful dialogue directly with the individual concerned.
- Be aware that events have many sides, be prepared to listen to them and seek to verify facts before stating a concern.
- Respect the rights of staff members and other individuals by not contacting school staff outside of normal school hours and setting.

With respect to the David Scott School's obligations to school families, the families can expect:

- An attitude of professionalism from all staff members.
- To be listened to and clearly communicated with, in regard to their student's education.
- That confidentiality over sensitive issues is respected by staff.
- To be treated in a caring and polite manner.
- To be respected by staff and students.
- That their student will be educated in a secure environment in which care, courtesy and respect for the rights of others are expected.

Communication Processes

Talking to the David Scott School

The David Scott School is at all times keen to acknowledge the concerns of parents and welcomes any questions parents may have. Our school is committed to responding promptly and helpfully to parent enquiries, concerns, complaints, suggestions and compliments. We believe the relationship between the home and school plays a fundamental part in a student's education. Teachers are responsible for the formal aspects of student learning and successful teaching builds upon the home experiences of the student. We believe communication is essential in the partnership between parents and the school.

Things You May Wish to Talk About

Parents may have a number of matters they wish to talk about with our school. These may range from particular matters such as your student's progress at school and their attitude towards studies, or attendance and participation at school. As a parent/guardian you may have questions about how to arrange further support services like wellbeing, careers and/or numeracy & literacy intervention.

Ways in Which the David Scott School Communicates With You

The David Scott School communicates with you as a parent through a number of different channels. Your student’s progress at school will be communicated by the written student report at the end of each semester. Our newsletter that gets published each term on Compass. We send reminder letters to parents about important upcoming events. Teachers will send parents notices to inform you of excursions and other events. The David Scott School also holds a number of important assemblies and evening celebrations throughout the year to show parents the quality of our students’ work. Important information is also placed on the David Scott School website and Compass Newsfeed.

Information Available From the David Scott School

The David Scott School can give you insights into available Department of Education and David Scott School policies. These include our policies on our student protection program, student duty of care and more.

What if You Have a Problem?

At the David Scott School we believe that dealing with a matter as early as possible is in the best interests for students, parents and school staff. If you have any questions of school staff about your student, you are encouraged to document your concern in an email. The appropriate staff member will then make contact with you in a timely manner. Alternately, contact the Administration Office to make an appointment for a telephone conversation or meeting.

We ask you to follow the process set out below:

1. Try to identify the problem clearly before contacting the school.
2. If there is more than one problem, please list them to ensure the school becomes aware of the extent of the problem.
3. We also ask you to decide if this problem is a concern or complaint.
4. Contact the David Scott School via email or phone.
5. Make an appointment to speak to the teacher or support team.
6. If your concern is about a staff member contact the Assistant Principal or Principal.
7. Being calm will help you get your concerns across more clearly than if you are angry or upset.

Rude or abusive or threatening behaviour will not be tolerated. Any conversation where one person becomes rude, abusive or threatening will end immediately. Any behaviour that is thought to be rude, abusive or threatening will lead to action for trespass and/or intervention orders from the legal system. If the problem cannot be solved at the David Scott School, we will help you to contact the appropriate support agencies.

Every parent/guardian agrees and follows this parent code of conduct by enrolment of their student at the David Scott School.

We hereby agree and acknowledge to the above David Scott School Parent Code of Conduct.	
Parent/Guardian Signature:	