

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Document Approval

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Note

All documents are reviewed and updated annually or as required.

Contents

Document Approval	2
Version Control	2
Overview	4
1. Purpose of the Code of Conduct	4
2. Our Mission	4
3. Our Core Values	4
4. Audience	4
5. Code of Conduct Communication	4
6. Code of Conduct Acceptance	4
The Student Code of Conduct	5
Unacceptable Behaviour	6
1. Examples of unacceptable behaviour	6
2. Reporting unacceptable behaviour	6
3. Managing a breach of the Code of Conduct	6

Overview

1. Purpose of the Code of Conduct

Sowilo Community High School provides a safe, respectful, and supportive educational environment for students, staff, parents/guardians, and volunteers. We want our students to engage in quality academic experiences and learn values supportive of lifelong learning and wellbeing.

The Student Code of Conduct outlines the standards and behaviour we expect from all students enrolled at the school.

2. Our Mission

Our mission is to develop a student-centred school that encourages effective teaching and learning, respect and allows for positive contributions to the community.

3. Our Core Values

Our core values are:

- Building community.
- Respect and trust.
- Being responsible.
- Learning and knowing.
- Embracing individuality.
- Being creative and innovative.
- Being flexible.

4. Audience

The Code of Conduct applies to all students at Sowilo Community High School. It encompasses all school-related activities, including school excursions, camps, tours, sporting events, or whenever the student is representing the school. We want our students to make sure that their actions and decisions (during school hours or outside of school hours) do not negatively affect the school's reputation.

5. Code of Conduct Communication

This document is provided to all new students and their parents/guardians as part of enrolment.

At Sowilo Community High School, all students and their parents/guardians must understand and agree to the Code of Conduct and its requirements.

6. Code of Conduct Acceptance

During the enrolment process both the student and their parents/guardians will be asked to sign off that they have read and understood the Code of Conduct and its requirements.

The Student Code of Conduct

Students at Sowilo must:

- **Uphold** the Sowilo Community High School's core values of:
 - Build Community.
 - Respect and trust.
 - Be responsible.
 - Learn and know.
 - Embrace individuality.
 - Be creative and innovative.
 - Be flexible.
- **Always behave safely:** behave in a way that does not hurt the health, safety and wellbeing of yourself and others.
- **Follow all rules and procedures:** Follow the Sowilo Rules and all health and safety rules and procedures in school and on excursions, camps and tours.
- **Respect the authority of staff:** Follow all instructions and requests given by any staff member.
- **Protect the reputation of the school, staff and others:** Avoid activities that may damage the reputation of the school, staff or other students. This includes activities on social media, phones or via SMS.
- **Treat everyone and everything with dignity and respect:** Always be respectful. Respect everyone in the community and respect all property.
- **No bullying or harassment:** No bullying or harassment including social media, SMS or phones.
- **No drugs, alcohol, cigarettes or weapons at school:** Do not bring, use or be in the possession of cigarettes (including vape), alcohol, drug or weapons at school, on school activities or in transit from home to school.

Unacceptable Behaviour

1. Examples of unacceptable behaviour

Along with breaching the Code of Conduct, the school also regards the following as unacceptable behaviour:

- Touching, handling, pushing, being physical or sexually engaging with other students or anyone else inappropriately or aggressively.
- Any form of physical or verbal violence, including fighting, verbal or physical assault, or threats of violence.
- Any form of cyberbullying, including sexting.
- Taking or sending inappropriate, offensive, or explicit text messages, photos, or videos.
- Theft, fraud, or misuse of school resources and that of the businesses surrounding the school.

2. Reporting unacceptable behaviour

We encourage all students to report any suspected breaches of the Code of Conduct or unacceptable or inappropriate behaviour. Students can report these breaches, in confidence, to any staff member.

3. Managing a breach of the Code of Conduct

- Students who are reported or observed breaching the student Code of Conduct may be placed on the bench by the observing staff member. The School Coordinator/Principal or their delegate will discuss the student's behaviour and agree upon the following steps to improve or change that behaviour.
- The school provides support and guidance to any student who reports a breach of the Code of Conduct or any unacceptable behaviour.
- Students who continue to breach the student Code of Conduct receive official warnings and appropriate behaviour management consequences. The School Coordinator/Principal or their delegate will determine the behaviour management strategies. These can include loss of privileges, behavioural contracts, counselling, suspension or expulsion.
- If a breach is considered unlawful, the School Coordinator/Principal may expel the student or advise the police, depending on the severity.