

# Healesville High School

## Parent Code of Conduct



Healesville High School aims to provide an open, welcoming and safe environment for all. We believe that all parents/carers play a valuable role in the life of the school community. Currently our students are required to observe and abide by a set of principles and expectations for appropriate behaviour towards and in the company of one another (see Student Code of Conduct). A parent Code of Conduct also helps to maintain an environment of respect, ensuring the safety and wellbeing of students, families and staff.

### **As a parent/carer of a Healesville High School student we ask that you;**

- Support your child/ren to participate in all educational endeavours by promoting a positive attitude and showing interest in all school activities,
- Help your child/ren to understand that giving your best effort is important to enable them fully develop their talents, interests and ambitions,
- Demonstrate that both teachers and parents work together for the benefit of the child/ren,
- Listen to your child/ren, but remember that a different ‘reality’ may be possible (keep an open mind),
- Understand the importance of a healthy parent/teacher/child triangle and communicate any concerns to your child’s teacher in a constructive and respectful manner,
- Adhere to the school’s policies, as outlined on the school website,
- Work in a cooperative manner with the school to address any unacceptable behaviour shown by your child/ren (as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct),
- Support the school in its efforts to maintain a positive teaching and learning environment,
- Inform the school of any issues that impact on your child’s wellbeing.

### **Parents/Carers have the right to;**

- Be treated with respect and courtesy by other parents,
- Be treated in a polite manner,
- Be respected by staff and students,
- Have a timely response to concerns raised,
- Be treated with professionalism from all staff members,
- Be listened to and clearly communicated with, in regard to their child’s education.

### **Parents/Carers have a responsibility to;**

- Use respectful language towards staff and other members of the school community,
- Remain calm and polite when communicating with staff and other members of the school community,
- Never approach another child whilst in the care of the school to discuss or chastise them because of actions towards their own child/ren, they must seek a staff member,
- Be aware that events have many sides, be prepared to listen to their children and to seek verification of facts before stating a concern,
- Be mindful of what they say in order to respect the reputation of the teachers,
- Respect teachers’ preparation time before or after school, try to make a mutually convenient time to speak with a teacher.
- Avoid discussing any grievances in front of their child/ren regarding the school,
- (on excursions, assisting in class or on camp) follow the instructions and wishes of the teacher.

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It is also the parent's responsibility to support their child/ren to show care and tolerance of others which will ensure that the school is free of the following unacceptable behaviours;

- Bullying in all forms, including deliberate and/or ongoing alienation, and refusal to work with a particular person because of their background, gender or sexual orientations (including cyber-bullying).
- Discriminatory behaviour based on gender, religion, race, socio-economic status, class, age, cultural background or sexual orientation.
- All forms of aggressive behaviour whether verbal or physical.
- Verbal abuse including derogatory or offensive language, comments or jokes that unfairly label or stereotype characteristics of a particular group, imitating the accent or pronunciation of another person and name calling.
- Refusal to listen to/impatience with another's verbal expression.
- Physical violence including fighting, purposefully brushing up against another's body and unwelcomed pinching, patting, touching and embracing.
- Sexist and racist attitudes.
- Bringing of a weapon to school.
- Sex-based harassment in all forms including: sexually provocative remarks; offensive staring and leering; suggestive questions or comments about another's sexual morality, physical appearance or sexual orientation; repeated requests to go out with somebody and requests after prior refusal; or requests for sexual favours.
- Displays of sexually graphic material, wearing clothing, which is offensive or graffiti, which denigrates an individual or group.
- Behaviour that endangers yourself or others.
- Behaviour which causes damage to school property or the property of others.
- Taking food to class (exceptions may apply - ie. food based subjects).
- Using of illegal drugs (including, but not limited to alcohol, cigarettes and marijuana).

**Where a parent has any concerns regarding the safety and wellbeing of their child/ren they should;**

- Contact the appropriate Year Level Manager and try to resolve the concern with mutual respect and clear communication.
- Report any inappropriate behaviour to the appropriate Year Level Manager, Welfare Coordinator, the Assistant Principal or Principal.

It is important to note that criticism regarding a staff member will only be heard if it is related to their professional conduct.

**If a parent is concerned or unsure of any information contained in this document please seek advice from the Assistant Principal or Principal.**