Student Code of Conduct

Our Lady of Dolours School

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Brisbane Catholic Education

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As a Catholic community, we centre our relationships in the social teachings of human dignity, common good, mutual respect, subsidiarity, love and ethical responsibility.

Following the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations, we prioritise every child's safety and wellbeing by continually improving our implementation of the 10 Child Safe Standards and supporting the cultural safety of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children (Universal Principle). We are dedicated to fostering culturally safe school communities where all students are supported to thrive and feel welcomed, valued, included and respected.

We know learning and wellbeing outcomes improve through active participation in both the classroom and co-curricular activities creating a sense of belonging. We expect students to be fully engaged in their schooling journey and to act in ways that allow others to do the same. Students have the right to learn, and teachers have the right to teach, in environments that are safe, calm and dignified.

All schools and Colleges in Brisbane Catholic Education (BCE) have a **Student Code of Conduct (SCC)** that articulates expectations for student behaviour and possible responses when behaviour is not productive or acceptable.

This SCC applies to all students at **Our Lady of Dolours** and refers to behaviours that may be physical, verbal or involve online interactions, events and activities and anywhere students represent or can be identified as students of **Our Lady of Dolours**.

As a community, we are all expected to engage with staff, parents, students and others in the community in a respectful way — valuing the rights all, resolving problems in prompt and sensitive ways and treating others as we would wish to be treated.

Our Vision as a school is to **to be a Marian community passionate about learning, united in our aspiration to be like Christ, caring for our neighbours and our common home.** This is expressed in our values of:

- **Compassion –** caring for our neighbour.
- **Justice –** taking action for what is right.
- **Wisdom –** questioning, inquiring and reflecting.

This SCC supports students in achieving this vision through our daily interactions, service and engagement.

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this Code of Conduct, founded on our school's vision and the values that flow from this, is to describe the behaviour expectations for all students at **Our Lady of Dolours.**

This Code of Conduct must be read in conjunction with **Our Lady of Dolours'** Student Behaviour and Engagement Plan (SBEP) which outlines how **Our Lady of Dolours** will support students to meet the expectations of this Code of Conduct so they can engage fully in their education. The SBEP details how the school will support the development of constructive behaviours for learning and school engagement and processes for staff to follow when students are not meeting expectations. This process includes proactive strategies to enable positive engagement, support strategies for when behaviours are not productive and/or acceptable, and intensive support processes and/or possible sanctions for when students do not meet the behaviour expectations of our community.

2.0 Statement of Intent

Our Lady of Dolours is committed to ensuring inclusive and respectful learning environments that are positive and supportive. Our school is a place where dignity, calmness and safety are prioritised so all students can engage in learning. The SCC provides clear guidelines to students of the conduct expected of them while at school or school-related locations, when engaging in school-related activities or when representing the school or when in any situation where they can be identified as a student of **Our Lady of Dolours**. Students are expected to uphold the school's core values which are centred on our vision. We commit to being trauma-informed and inclusive in our approach, emphasising respectful relationships and affirming the importance of belonging and connection.

3.0 Principles

This SCC is based on the principles that every student:

- has the right to be safe and feel safe
- has the right to be treated with respect and dignity and be valued
- will actively participate in their education
- will be both supported and challenged
- has the right to learn within a safe and calm environment without experiencing intimidation, harassment, bullying, racism or discrimination
- is respectful polite, courteous and considerate in their interactions with others
- has genuine voice and opportunity to express their ideas, feelings and concerns.

4.0 Values

At **Our Lady of Dolours** we are an authentic Catholic community characterised by our unique vision and values. Our vision and values drive what we do and how we do it. Our core values embodied in our vision and articulated in our Code of Conduct are:

- **People of Compassion** – caring for our neighbour.
- **People of Justice** – taking action for what is right.
- **People of Wisdom** – questioning, inquiring and reflecting.

5.0 Behaviours

Our values at **Our Lady of Dolours** can be seen through the following example behaviours:

Value	Sample overarching behaviour
People of Compassion *Caring for our neighbour*	• Treat every person with kindness, dignity and respect. • Include, encourage and support others so everyone feels welcomed, valued and safe. • Show empathy, forgiveness and understanding in your relationships. • Care for our school community and our common home.
People of Justice *Taking action for what is right*	• Act responsibly by making safe and positive choices. • Be honest, fair and take responsibility for your actions. • Respect the rights, property and opinions of others, and speak up when something is unfair or unsafe.

	• Follow school expectations by being in the right place, at the right time, doing the right thing.
People of Wisdom *Questioning, inquiring and reflecting*	• Strive to achieve your personal best in learning and behaviour. • Be confident, persistent, organised and resilient in your learning. • Reflect on your choices and learn from your experiences. • Ask questions, seek feedback and continue to grow as a lifelong learner.

For student and parents/legal guardians
If you have any concerns, we encourage you to follow school processes and engage in discussion with the relevant staff member, prior to escalation. If the issue remains unresolved, BCE's Complaints Policy is available on the BCE website. These processes reflect that resolution of complaints is best achieved through mutually respectful relationships.

Breaches of the Code

Enrolment at **Our Lady of Dolours** carries an expectation to support the school, its staff and its policies and processes. In circumstances where some students are unable to meet this expectation, we will endeavour to work constructively to resolve the issues. However, a serious or persistent breach of this SCC can result in consequences including:

- The principal (or delegate) discussing any alleged breaches of the Code with the student and/or their family/legal guardian
- Application of sanctions as outlined in the **Our Lady of Dolours** SBEP, which can include suspension and exclusion
- The principal (or delegate), escalating alleged breaches to BCE Office for advice and support
- Notifying appropriate external authorities such as the Queensland Police Service, Queensland Department of Education or Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety as needed.

Acknowledgement

Persons accept this SCC and agree to adhere to BCE and school policies and procedures when agreeing to an offer of enrolment at **Our Lady of Dolours.**

For further information about the Student Code of Conduct, please contact the Principal at Our Lady of Dolours School.

For further information about the SCC please contact **the Principal** at **Our Lady of Dolours**.



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