

Somerly Primary School

Parent Code of Conduct



SCHOOL VISION

Our school vision is to support students in becoming strong thoughtful and independent individuals who aspire to be the best they can be.

We aspire for all students to become:

1. Successful Learners
2. Confident and Creative Individual
3. Active and Informed Citizens

Our core beliefs are:

- Excellence: Students learn best when their individual needs are explicitly catered for in a supportive and collaborative environment.
- Equity: Students learn best when individuality is acknowledged and catered for through collaboration between students, teachers, parents and the community.
- Care: Students learn best in a nurturing school environment that actively supports and models positive and productive relationships.
- Learning: Learning is inclusive, intrinsically motivating and engaging, allowing every child to experience academic success. Learning is explicit, sequential and every child aims to achieve personal excellence.

RATIONALE

Community Partnerships play an integral component of our school. Parents who share our school vision and beliefs play an important role in helping us to build and maintain an effective school. They also act as one of the most influential role models within a child's life, and appropriate conduct on school grounds by everyone is central to helping us achieve our vision.

This Code of Conduct is intended to:

1. Provide a set of general principles to guide parents in their interaction with staff, students and other parents of Somerly Primary School
2. Explain how parents can direct their concerns.

PARENT INTERACTIONS

As parents you are our biggest role models. Accordingly, we ask you demonstrate a high standard of personal behaviour when on school grounds that link to our school values of Respect, Responsibility and Safety.

- Use appropriate respectful language and behaviour with all students and staff while on school grounds
- Ensure all our students feel safe at school
- Act with respect and care for classes and school property
- Approach the class teacher, Deputy Principal or the Principal to seek their intervention in bringing about a solution to any situation or problem.
- Support your child in all their educational endeavours by giving praise and showing interest in their school activities.
- Schedule a meeting with the class teacher if you have concerns regarding your child's learning

PARENT AWARENESS

A child is not necessarily lying when their story conflicts with another or when the teacher's perspective does not match what you have been told at home. Children see their world through their own limited experiences, which colour their perceptions. Adult perceptions are balanced with life experiences. Listen to your child as they tell you their "reality",

but remember that a different "reality" may possibly exist elsewhere. Open, honest discussion with school staff is essential in these situations.

- Show awareness that a child's perception is not the same as an adult's due to developmental maturity.
- Understand that children may and do act differently at home and school.
- Parking with awareness, consideration for safety and respect for others when delivering and collecting children from school.
- Smoking is not permitted within school grounds
- Dogs are not permitted on school grounds

PARENT VOLUNTEERS AND CLASSROOM HELP

At times parent volunteers may be requested by the classroom teacher for specific roles within the classroom. Parent volunteers and classroom help will occur upon teacher request and at point of need.

PARENT COMPLAINT PROCDEURES

It is important that correct procedures are followed in times of conflict to ensure all parties are heard and for harmonious solutions to be reached. Any concerns you may have must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the Class Teacher, Associate Principal or the Principal so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

- Step 1 - Seek information as early as possible. If you have any questions or concerns about your child's progress, contact the class teacher. The best way to do this is to contact the class teacher to arrange a mutually convenient time for a telephone conversation or meeting.
- Step 2 - If your problem is not resolved. Contact the principal who will work with you and the staff member to resolve the problem. You may wish to formalise your complaint. To do this, you may write to the principal who will acknowledge the complaint with a written reply as soon as possible, even if a resolution is not available at this stage. Should the matter result from a situation outside of classroom matters then it is appropriate to discuss this with a member of the school administration in the first instance.
- Step 3 - Regional Resolution - If resolution is not reached at the school level or, if the principal is the subject of your complaint, contact the Coordinator, Regional Operations at your Regional Education Office for assistance in resolving the issue.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media websites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Principals, school staff, and in some case other parents/pupils. Somerly Primary School considers the use of social media websites being used in this way as **unacceptable** and not in the best interests of the children or the whole school community.

In serious cases the school will also consider further options to deal with any such misuse of social networking and other sites. Additionally, and perhaps more importantly, is the issue of cyber bullying and the use by any member of the school community to publicly humiliate another by inappropriate social network entry. We will take and deal with this as a serious incident of school bullying.

The above behaviours on school premises will be reported to the appropriate authorities and the Principal may prohibit an offending adult from entering the school grounds to safeguard our school community.

We trust that parents, carers and visitors will fully support this Code of Conduct to ensure a positive environment for all.