

BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS, RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

Aranmore's Code of Conduct is enshrined in a belief that good relationships are central to good educational outcomes in schools. We believe that people are happier, more cooperative and productive, and more likely to make positive changes when those in authority do things with them, rather than to them or for them.¹ We see breaches of the code of conduct not so much as breaking the rules, but as damaging relationships. When any of the 'Rights and Responsibilities' outlined below are neglected, people are affected and hurt. We assess a situation by considering what harm has been done, helping people to take responsibility for their behaviour, and helping people move toward reconciliation and making things right. This bringing together of stakeholders aims for what is known as restorative justice. It promotes the peace and reconciliation which Jesus announces in the Gospels (Luke 4:18-19; Matt 5:23-25). Flowing from the College's Vision Statement, its Pastoral Care Policy and its Code of Conduct, are the following Rights and Responsibilities:

1. International Institute of Restorative Practices

1. Aranmore Catholic College is a Faith Community.

Therefore,

- 1.1 Students will support and participate positively in the formal Religious Education programme.
- 1.2 Students will participate appropriately in Retreats and classroom prayer as required.
- 1.3 Students will participate appropriately in Mass, liturgies and other religious services.

2. All members of the College community are entitled to be treated with courtesy and respect.

Therefore,

- 2.1 A high standard of cooperation, courtesy and behaviour is expected from students both within the College and when representing the College in public.
- 2.2 Students are expected to practice honesty and openness in dealings with others.
- 2.3 Students are expected to politely follow directions given by staff.
- 2.4 Students and staff are to be free from all forms of bullying and harassment. To ensure that this is the case, the College has developed a specific Bullying Policy.
- 2.5 The college has a "hands off" policy, which specifically pertains to interactions between students. This means that the following behaviours are not acceptable:
 - Public displays of deep affection
 - Unruly behaviour and rough play, including 'play fights' or 'tackling' in play
 - Fighting or striking another person
 - Any behaviour which physically endangers or demeans oneself or others e.g. 'dacking'.
- 2.6 The language used in conversation with one another must be free from obscenities, vulgarities and sexual references.

2.7 The College explicitly forbids the use of any form of child abuse, corporal punishment or other degrading punishment.

Child abuse is defined by the four forms of child abuse under WA law:

- 1) Physical abuse occurs when a child is severely and/or persistently hurt or injured by an adult or a child's caregiver.
- 2) Sexual abuse, in relation to a child, includes sexual behaviour in circumstances where:
 - a) the child is the subject of bribery, coercion, a threat, exploitation or violence;
 - b) the child has less power than another person involved in the behaviour; or
 - c) there is a significant disparity in the developmental function or maturity of the child and another person involved in the behaviour.
- 3) Emotional abuse includes:
 - a) psychological abuse; and
 - b) being exposed to an act of family and domestic violence.
- 4) Neglect includes failure by a child's parents to provide, arrange or allow the provision of:
 - a) adequate care for the child; or
 - b) effective medical, therapeutic or remedial treatment for the child.

Corporal punishment is any punishment in which physical force is used and intended to cause some degree of pain or discomfort, however light; typically involving hitting the child with the hand or with an implement; can also include, for example, forcing the child to stay in an uncomfortable position. It does not include the use of reasonable physical restraint to protect the child or others from harm [from UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *General Comment No. 8* (2006), paragraphs 11 and 15: CRC/C/GC/8, 2 March 2007].

Degrading Punishment is any punishment which is incompatible with respect for human dignity, including corporal punishment and non-physical punishment which belittles, humiliates, denigrates, scapegoats, threatens, scares or ridicules the child [from UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *General Comment No. 8* (2006), paragraphs 11 and 16: CRC/C/GC/8, 2 March 2007].

3. All students are to be given the opportunity to achieve their academic potential and are encouraged to assist others in doing the same. Moreover, all members of the community have the right to teach and learn without disruption.

Therefore,

- 3.1 Students must attend all classes, have appropriate texts and equipment with them, complete all designated class and homework, thus accepting responsibility for their own learning.
- 3.2 Students will carry an Aranmore Catholic College diary to all lessons and will use it in accordance with the instructions and procedures determined by their Head of Year. Additionally, the Diary will be signed by Form or Class Teacher whenever a student is

given permission to leave a timetabled class and must be carried to the student's destination. Lost Diaries must be replaced.

- 3.3 Students will ensure that their behaviour is conducive to the productive learning of other students. They each will contribute to establishing a classroom environment that is well ordered and positive in its approach and where each student accepts responsibility for any behaviour that interrupts the learning programme.
- 3.4 Students are expected to be punctual to all lessons.
- 3.5 Students are expected to follow the College's attendance procedures. In particular, students are expected to be on College grounds 5 minutes before the first bell and once present, must remain within the campus boundary until the end of the school day; students arriving at school after the morning Form bell has rung must report to Student Services to sign in; students leaving the campus before afternoon dismissal, must report to Student Services to be registered as an 'Early Departure'.
- 3.6 Students are expected to be supportive of their peers and their achievements.

4. All members of the College community are entitled to work in and enjoy a safe, secure and clean environment.

Therefore,

- 4.1 Students are to walk along paved areas, verandahs and stairways.
- 4.2 Sport and active games are restricted to the ovals, Lower CBC grass area, the courts and the gymnasium.
- 4.3 Certain areas are out of bounds to students except when supervised by a teacher:
 - All staff areas and offices.
 - Classrooms, upper balconies and stairwells during recess, lunch, before and after school
 - Car parks, driveways and bus bays during school hours except for the purpose of passing through to access another part of the college campus.
 - The large bin or 'skip' located behind the canteen.
 - Building sites and areas under construction

5. The College community is entitled to a positive and healthy learning environment.

Therefore,

- 5.1 Aranmore Catholic College has a specific policy in relation to drug issues, and in keeping with its undertaking to provide a healthy, safe, supportive and caring environment for students, the College:
 - Promotes the individual's appropriate and responsible use of medicinal drugs
 - Prohibits the possession, use, and/or distribution of any illegal drug, alcohol or tobacco products and any drug related equipment. Such substances are prohibited not only on College grounds but also at any College event.
 - Requires students to wear an Aranmore hat or cap while engaged in un-shaded outdoor activities during Terms One and Four and to seek under-cover seating or sheltered locations for passive recreation.

6. All students are expected to take care of College property.

Therefore,

- 6.1 Classrooms, change rooms, toilets, lockers, and all other facilities will be used with care and will be kept graffiti-free.
- 6.2 Students will ensure that litter is placed in bins and that grounds are kept tidy.
- 6.3 Food and drink are not to be taken onto the ovals or courts, or into the gymnasium.
- 6.4 Students are to enter classrooms under the direction of staff.
- 6.5 Food and drink are not to be consumed in classrooms (clear water bottles may be taken to class). Chewing gum is not permitted at the College.

7. All students are entitled to the enjoyment of private property.

Therefore,

- 7.1 A student's personal property remains the responsibility of the student. Students will bring only essential items of personal property to school, will accept responsibility for the security of their possessions, and will ensure that personal possessions brought to school are consistent with the Christian values of the College.
- 7.2 Banned items: The following items are not to be brought to the College:
Laser light gadgets, pocket-knives, 'Stanley' knives or similar, lighters, skateboards, scooters, pornographic, erotic or demeaning print and electronic materials.
- 7.3 Lockers: Students are expected to maintain the security of the locker allocated to them. They are to keep private their locker and the code number for their combination lock.
- 7.4 College bags and backpacks should only contain what is needed for the day's lessons and should not be left unattended.
- 7.5 College bags must be equipped with a padlock to secure a section of the bag for the storage of valuables such as mobile phones, calculators, wallets.
- 7.6 Approved sports bags bearing an Aranmore logo may be taken to lessons. Other bags may be left for safe keeping in Student Services.
- 7.7 School bags are to be completely free of decoration and graffiti.
- 7.8 If, in exceptional circumstances, a student finds it necessary to bring to school a large sum of money or personal possession of value, it should be registered at Student Services for safe-keeping throughout the day until collected at dismissal.

8. All students are entitled to the care of the College community and have a responsibility for complying with its procedures and contributing to its traditions.

Therefore,

- 8.1 Students are expected to be familiar with, and to follow, the attendance procedures put in place to ensure their safety and well-being.
- 8.2 Students are expected to participate fully in all activities arranged by the College such as Retreats, Founders' Day, sporting carnivals, excursions, camps and other school activities. Should illness prevent attendance at such community occasions, a medical certificate may be required upon the student's return to school.
- 8.3 Students must be in correct uniform at all times. This might be either academic or sports uniform as appropriate to the student's year-level or timetable.

- 8.4 If a student has a short-term problem with uniform, a parental note must be brought from home (preferably written in the Student Diary) and presented to the Head of Year who will countersign the note granting permission for a uniform variation to occur for a short and specific period of time. No permission will be granted for problems with the sports uniform; students must wear the academic uniform if sports uniform is incomplete. Under no circumstances will permission be given for the wearing of thongs/flip-flops or sandals to school.
- 8.5 Students may only wear permissible items of jewellery. The wearing of make-up that is visible and obvious, and of coloured nail polish, is not permitted. Hair should be neat and tidy and worn in accordance with College regulations in relation to hair-style and the use of artificial hair.