CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

Introduction

The College Motto, “Excellence, Care, Commitment” was chosen to reflect, influence and guide the thinking and actions of all concerned with the College, and to define the very nature of the relationship and behaviours expected within the College community. This Motto forms the foundation and fundamental basis for the College’s Code of Behaviour and is applicable to all staff, students and parents/guardians (who are referred to as “members” of the College community).

1. Education for the development of the whole person requires that all associated with the College regard themselves and others with dignity and respect, and that they respect the environment in which they live, study and work.

2. All members of the community must act at all times in a manner that enhances and promotes the reputation of the College and its community. This includes actions which occur outside of College hours, activities or premises, particularly where the actions may damage the reputation of the College and its community.

3. The opportunity to maximise academic and personal achievement is the right of each student. No student is to jeopardise this right by inappropriate or disruptive behaviour within or outside the classroom. This includes, but is not limited to, communication either in written, verbal or electronic means that causes offence, is harassing or menacing, or otherwise has the potential to disrupt or influence the learning environment within the College.

4. All members of the community are expected to be courteous, respectful, engaging and welcoming to each other, and to all visitors to the College, or other members of the broader community.

5. Pride in appearance is a measure of self-esteem and loyalty to the College. Students must wear their full uniform (formal or sporting), without any clothing additions or variations, and ensure it is maintained clean and in good repair. The formal uniform is to be worn to all College activities, and to and from school, unless otherwise advised.

6. Hairstyles must be in keeping with the neat and conservative style of the uniform, and as defined by the College. This means that hair must be a natural colour, and fashion trends or extremes of hair length are not acceptable. Fringes must be above the eyebrows. Long fringes swept or held back by hair product are not acceptable. Boys’ hair must be trimmed about the collar and the ears, and must not have any significant difference in length between the side and the top; girls must tie hair back from the face with College approved accessories only. Make-up is not permitted and only clear nail polish may be worn. Boys are to be cleanly shaven.

7. Jewellery is limited for boys and girls to: a watch, and if desired, a religious medal worn out of sight, on a chain, inside the shirt or blouse. Girls may wear one set of plain silver or gold studs on the bottom of the earlobe only. Tattoos and other piercings are not acceptable.

8. Students may only use technology for appropriate use (usually for an educational purpose) in the classroom, grounds, or at school related activities. The College accepts no responsibility for any personal devices or equipment brought to the College.
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9. Students are not to make any unauthorised audio-visual or photographic recordings of staff or other students without their prior direct and informed consent.

10. It is a legal requirement that students attend school each day and remain within the grounds while at school. Permission to leave the College must be sought from the Head of Senior School, or Dean of Studies (in the Senior School), or the Head of Junior School, or the Deputy Heads of the Junior School, and then students must sign out at Student Services. It is expected that parents sign out students in the Junior School. In the case of an illness, parents are asked to ring and provide a note upon the student’s return, or email the College on the morning of the absence.

11. When a student accepts membership of a sporting team, club or activity, he or she also accepts all the commitments involved in that membership. To not do so is a mark of disrespect towards the other students and staff concerned.

12. Students who undertake wilful damage, theft, or those who provide or use alcohol, cigarettes and/or illegal drugs, whether on campus, or in relation to College activities both within and external to normal school hours, may have their enrolment contracts terminated by the College Principal and/or his/her delegate. Their actions may also be reported to the Police.

13. It is compulsory for students to attend certain formal functions outside normal College hours during the year. These include, but are not limited to, the Year 12 Leadership Induction, Speech Night and any other event as specified on the College calendar and/or newsletter.

14. All students are bound by College policies, many of which are based on Government Acts and regulations. These Policies are listed on the College website and can be requested in writing from the Director of Business and Finance.

Ongoing and continued enrolment at A.B. Paterson College is conditional upon the agreement of parents/guardians and the student to act, engage and behave in such a way to maintain and support this Philosophy and Ethos of the College, and the Code of Behaviour. Breaches of this Code of Behaviour by members of the community may result in discipline, or the suspension of a child’s enrolment, or expulsion from the College.

Our College is a thriving and dynamic environment, and a place of educational opportunity and offerings. All members of the community, whether they be staff, parents and/or students have the obligation to behave in such a manner that enhances both the educational environment and A.B. Paterson College, and to promote the College in all dealings.

Brian Grimes
Principal