

# RESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOUR POLICY

## RATIONALE

The Department for Education and Child Development (DECD) is accountable to the community, through the Minister for Education and Child Development, for managing student behaviour and creating safe, orderly, productive and successful learning communities. This policy and code of behaviour is based on the following shared principles:

- Brighton Secondary School operates within the context of the wider society and has responsibility to prepare young people for successful participation in society
- All individuals and groups should be treated with respect at all times
- Individuals must accept responsibility for their own behaviour according to their developmental ability.

## AIMS

The Responsible Behaviour Policy and Code of Behaviour aim to ensure a safe and supportive environment for learning and behaviour that reinforces virtues and principles of positive education.

The policy and code outline the responsibilities of staff, students and parents to promote appropriate and positive conduct and to prevent or minimise non-compliant and aggressive behaviours. The range of responses to inappropriate behaviours is documented as part of the Code of Behaviour.

## INTRODUCTION

Brighton Secondary School students have the right to receive a quality education and to be provided with a safe, caring and supportive environment for learning and behaviour. At Brighton Secondary School we want to create a learning community that:

- Provides an opportunity for all students to reach their learning potential
- Ensures the safety of staff and students
- Promotes student and staff wellbeing
- Fosters confidence, responsibility and self discipline
- Assists students who may exhibit challenging behaviours to accept responsibility for themselves and their actions
- Provides a social framework allowing every student to learn and succeed
- Cultivates integrity and mutual respect.

## STUDENT CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

In order to be able to provide each student with the opportunity to reach their potential, students should expect to:

- Be able to learn without distraction or interference from others
- Work in a safe environment
- Feel safe from harassment, bullying and discrimination
- Be shown respect by their peers and teachers
- Be empowered to take responsibility for their own behaviour and progress.

Our school virtues of **Curiosity, Courage** and **Citizenship** are the foundation for building positive relationships and promoting responsible behaviour.

**Curiosity**

Taking an interest in ongoing experience for its own sake, finding subjects and topics fascinating, exploring and discovering.

**Courage**

Emotional strengths that involve the exercise of will to accomplish goals in the face of opposition, external or internal.

**Citizenship**

Civic strengths that underlie healthy community life.

**BEHAVIOUR IS AN EDUCATIVE PROCESS**

At Brighton Secondary School we regard student behaviour as an educative process with a focus on restorative principles and practices.

***We expect students to:***

**(a) Foster a positive learning environment by**

- Treating all members of the school community with respect and courtesy
- Being tolerant and considerate of others and respecting their rights and property
- Following instructions
- Being punctual and regular in attendance
- Making use of the educational opportunities offered by the school and working to the best of their ability.

**(b) Promote a positive school image and climate**

- Behaving in a manner that reflects the school's values and behaviour standards in all school related activities, in school and the community
- Wearing the agreed school uniform
- Remaining in school grounds unless given express permission by parent/school
- Using school equipment in an appropriate manner at school, at home and being financially responsible if they fail to do so.
- Refrain from possessing or using cigarettes, alcohol, illicit drugs on school premises or during school related activities
- Refrain from possessing weapons/firearms and or other dangerous prohibited items on school premises or during school related activities
- Refrain from inappropriate activities on school premises or in public spaces, including vandalism and other anti social behaviours

**(c) Maintain a safe and clean school environment by**

- Ensuring own safety and the safety of others
- Contributing to a litter free school environment
- Recycling where appropriate
- Protecting the school's natural environment (green zones).

### **Implementation**

The Principal Team has oversight for the implementation of the Responsible Behaviour Policy and Code of Behaviour. The Principal has specific responsibilities for ensuring that the document is:

- regularly reviewed, in consultation with the school community and Governing Council, and is consistent with the DECD School Discipline Policy
- accessible to the school community and parents are aware of the school's decision-making procedures open to them if they wish to make a complaint.

### **Responsibilities of Principal Team:**

- Ensure consistent implementation of the Responsible Behaviour Policy throughout the school
- Enable students to be involved in the management of their behaviour
- Support and enable parents or caregivers and teachers to form positive relationships within which student behaviour may be managed effectively
- Ensure that the school's response to gender, cultural differences, sexuality, family circumstances or disabilities does not reduce students' learning opportunities
- Maximise students' opportunities to experience intellectual, social and physical success
- Teach and model decision making in groups and ensure structures are in place for student voice
- Provide opportunities for staff training and development in relation to appropriate behaviour management
- Involve regional support services and other agencies, when appropriate, to support staff and families in managing student behaviour effectively
- Use system level consequences and interagency support programs with students who do not respond to class and school consequences.

### **Responsibilities of Teaching Staff:**

- Develop and foster positive relationships with students and families
- Communicate and interact effectively with students and engage in cooperative problem solving relationships to address issues faced by the learning community
- Participate in developing, implementing and reviewing the school's procedures for managing student behaviour
- Establish, maintain, make explicit and model the school's expectations relating to student behaviour
- Respond positively to responsible student behaviour and apply consequences if students interfere with teaching and learning and the safe school environment.

### **Responsibilities of Parents and Caregivers:**

When they enrol a student in a school, parents or caregivers accept responsibility to:

- Ensure that the student attends school and that school staff are notified of absences
- Keep schools informed of health issues, concerns about behaviour or other matters of relevance
- Comply with DECD and school policies.

## **RESPONSES TO INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR**

Brighton Secondary School expects responsible behaviour from all students. We encourage students to exercise self discipline, respect for the rights of others and to take responsibility for their own actions. When behaviour is inappropriate we are guided by the core concepts of restorative practices. Consequences are therefore applied with the following in mind:

- are appropriate in terms of the level of severity
- are consistent in application
- are mindful of special circumstances
- address any harm done (restitution where appropriate)
- facilitate the restoration of positive relationships between offender and offended.

In applying consequences for unacceptable student behaviour, the individual circumstances and actions of the student and the needs and rights of the school community will be considered. Access to alternative programs and input from other agencies may be necessary for students who repeatedly behave inappropriately and in unacceptable ways.

### **Responses Chart**

Some possible responses by staff, including Teachers, Coordinators, School Team Leaders (House Leaders, Year Level Managers and the Principal Team), to inappropriate behaviours are listed below. It should be made clear that the following responses are not necessarily sequential and that the level of response will be determined by the nature of the inappropriate behaviour.

<b>Response</b>	<b>Related to (possible actions)</b>	<b>Who</b>
Yard Duty	Low level class / yard incident	All teaching staff
Uniform Notice	Not meeting uniform requirements	All teaching staff
Behaviour Change Plan	Repeated classroom learning breaches	Teaching staff in consultation with Learning Area Coordinator
Withdrawal Room	Breaking Behaviour Change Plan Unsafe behaviour	All teaching staff
Extended School Day	Breaking Behaviour Change Plan Truancy Repeated uniform issues Yard behaviour	Coordinators School Team Leaders Principal Team
Notice of Concern	-Unexplained absence -Non completion of work -Work not at an appropriate level -Persistent lateness -Poor work ethic	All teaching staff
Internal Suspension	Repeated inappropriate behaviours	School Team Leaders Principal Team
External Suspension	-Persistent and wilful inattention -Interfered with the rights of others -Threatened safety/ wellbeing of others -Acted illegally -Threatened good order of school -Violence	Principal Team
Exclusion	-Persistent and wilful inattention -Interfered with the rights of others -Threatened safety/ wellbeing of others -Acted illegally -Threatened good order of school -Violence	Principal
Expulsion	-Acted illegally -Violence	Principal