

Parent Code of Conduct

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This Parent Code of Conduct applies to all parents, guardians and caregivers of a student at Tatachilla Lutheran College.

Supporting College Ethos and Values

Tatachilla Lutheran College is committed to providing an inclusive and safe environment. The Tatachilla community is a place where students, staff and parents can believe, become and belong to a safe environment to live love, grow and learn. Demonstrating and teaching the love of Christ, along with our six values of Faith, Ambition, Courage, Growth, Kinship and Compassion, are at the heart of who we are and how we work in partnership with parents and caregivers, students and staff, to unite and strengthen our college community. Parents are expected to support the academic ethos and values of the College, model appropriate behaviours for their children to learn from, and work with the College as it educates and provides pastoral support to all students.

Valuing Parent Partnerships

We value the importance of positive, respectful and supportive partnerships with parents and caregivers to enable the health and wellbeing of all members in our community, and collaboratively support the learning journey of students. We acknowledge the importance of positive relationships and role modelling between significant adults in the lives and education of our students, including the relationship, interactions and communications between staff, parents and caregivers. Student educational outcomes can be significantly influenced by the communication, respect and behaviours demonstrated by significant others.

Parent and Caregiver Expectations

1. Safety and Wellbeing

Tatachilla Lutheran College places significant value and priority on maintaining a safe and respectful working environment. Courteous and respectful written and verbal communication is expected at all times by students, staff, parents and members of the College community.

Examples of behaviours that compromise a safe environment and are therefore not acceptable include, but are not limited to: aggressive language, disrespectful comments, aggressive tone or language that is personal, insulting, or profane, any threats of harm to College property, staff, other parents or students.

Parents and caregivers are requested to provide the College with any formal and/or informal changes to parenting situations or parenting plans in writing as soon as practicable to enable appropriate support to be provided. This includes updated custody orders.

2. Visiting the College

All visitors to the school are required to sign in at College Reception for appointments/meetings, or Student Services if collecting a student. It is important that all

parents present in the College are recorded in the event of an emergency, and for safety and security purposes. Staff will subsequently organise for the student to come to the office. No other students are to be contacted by parents / caregivers. Parents are not to enter other learning spaces unless invited or previous arrangements have been made by the classroom teacher.

Parents are to comply with all safety and emergency procedures at Tatachilla Lutheran College in the event of an emergency while they are on school premises.

3. Respectful Communicating

The College encourages parent involvement in students' education. If parents wish to discuss their child/ren's learning or any other area of concern with a staff member at the College, parents should email their request to the relevant staff member to organise either an in-person or telephone appointment at a mutually convenient time. **Any grievances raised should be done so appropriately and restoratively.**

Academic concerns: please contact the Home class / Subject Teacher directly for academic and learning concerns. If subsequently required, the Learning Leader and R-6 / 7-12 Teaching and Learning coordinators can be contacted.

Pastoral care concerns: please contact the home class teacher in the first instance, and Flourish Leader if required subsequently.

Time-Sensitive situations: parents should communicate with Student Services who will prioritise it accordingly.

Communication with other Parents: Parents are required to be respectful of the privacy of other parents' email addresses, addresses, phone numbers and other details.

Parent use of Social Media: Parents should not use personal social media as a tool to air concerns or grievances about the College.

Inappropriate online activity includes:

- Identifying or posting images/videos of other students.
- Abusive or personal comments about staff, students or other parents.
- Bringing the school into disrepute.
- Posting defamatory or libellous comments.
- Emails circulated or sent directly with abusive or personal comments about staff or students.
- Using social media to publicly challenge school policies or discuss issues about individual children. Constructive feedback is welcomed through appropriate college channels.

4. Parent Volunteering:

Tatachilla is blessed to have many volunteers within its community, providing invaluable support for students and staff, enhancing the learning and relationships within our college community.

Whilst we value volunteers and the service they provide, it is critical that all volunteers are aware of the following required processes for volunteering in any capacity, including camps, excursions, class support, etc

- All volunteer roles are overseen by our marketing coordinator.
- Volunteers must sign in at the front office upon arrival and sign out at the completion of their time each day that they volunteer.
- All volunteers must have the appropriate Police and Working with Children clearances in order to volunteer within the school. This includes school excursions.



- All volunteers are required to complete a Volunteer Registration Form, Working with Children Check, RRHAN-ec online course and Valuing Safe Communities online training course. Further information re this is available on our website.

5. Breaches of the Parent Code of Conduct

If trust and respect required for staff and parents to collaborate and support students' education is broken, the College may cease enrolment of a student.

The Education and Children's Services Act 2019 states that it is offence for a person to:

- behave in an offensive or threatening manner on the premises of a school, preschool or children's service
- behave in an offensive or threatening manner towards any staff acting in the course of their duties
- use abusive, threatening or insulting language towards any staff acting in the course of their duties.

The Act provides clear consequences for breaches of the Act.

Tatachilla Lutheran College will respond to concerns about any breach of the Parent Code of Conduct. Where the Principal considers that a parent or caregiver has breached this Code, one or more of the following consequences may be implemented, however not necessarily in any particular order:

1. A verbal and written request to cease the breach of conduct immediately.
2. A written warning.
3. Request parent / caregiver to leave College grounds for a determined period.
4. Request exclusion from College activities or events for a determined period.
5. Limit or cease communication with a nominated College representative.
6. Cease student enrolment

Tatachilla Lutheran College is a caring, Christian community nurturing students in a growing relationship with Christ, and inspiring learners in a safe environment to live love, grow and learn. Tatachilla has a legal and moral responsibility to provide a safe, engaging and productive environment for all students, their parents, caregivers, and staff.

Thank you for assisting us by adopting the Parent Code of Conduct.

1 Corinthians 13:13: 'And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.'

Related policies/Acts:

The Education and Children's Services Act 2019
College Community Concern Policy
Child Safe Policy
Privacy Policy
Child Safe Code of Conduct
Student Code of Conduct

Endorsed by College Board 25 September 2024