STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Patterson Lakes Primary School aims to provide a positive, challenging and safe learning environment. The overall intention of the Student Code of Conduct statement is to highlight and promote student wellbeing and enhanced student learning at this school.

PRINCIPLES WHICH UNDERLIE THE STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

- All students have the right to be safe.
- All students are to be valued and treated with respect.
- All students have the right to work and play in a secure environment. [Refer to school policies]
- All students should be actively encouraged to develop consideration, courtesy and respect for others.
- All students will be encouraged and have opportunities to exhibit pride in their school.
- Teachers should be able to teach in an orderly and cooperative environment.
- The Principal and staff have an obligation to implement the Student Code of Conduct fairly, reasonably and consistently.

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Students have the following rights

- The right to feel safe at school.
- The right to learn without interference from others.
- The right to be treated with respect and in a fair and equitable manner free from harassment.
- The right to expect your property to be safe.

Students have the following responsibilities

- To learn and follow all the school rules.
- To attend class prepared to learn and not interfere with the learning of others.
- To treat others with respect and resolve differences through discussion and compromise and not conflict.
- To take care of your own and other people’s property.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

There are six basic guiding principles that make school life safe and happy for all students:

1. Move and play safely – [Is it safe for yourself, the school and others?]  
2. Care for yourself, others and property.  
3. Resolve problems calmly, sensibly and fairly – [Stop, Think, Do].  
4. Respect others through your speech, behaviours and manners.  
5. Work as well as you can and allow others to do the same.  
6. Work towards establishing behaviour that reflects pride in your school and its values.

Teachers and students will establish appropriate classroom rules and behaviours consistent with school rules, and with developing classrooms as caring communities.

SCHOOL RULES

Everyone has the right to learn and play in a happy, safe, secure environment. The following behaviours are considered unacceptable. If a student chooses to display any of them, they will be given a RE-THINK TIME.

- Punching, hitting, kicking
- Throwing stones, sticks, apples or any other dangerous missiles
- Playing with sticks (no sticks in hands at all)
- Leaving the school grounds or being out of bounds without permission
- Climbing trees or structures other than designated playground equipment
- Teasing, name calling and deliberately annoying another student
- Showing disregard for the property of others
- Bad language, insolence, disobedience and disruptive behaviour
- Failing to comply with the school’s “No hat … No play” policy
- Not playing footy on the oval or other grassed areas
- Showing disrespect towards a staff member
- Entering the classroom or school building without teacher permission
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Students will receive a copy of the Code of Conduct for reference and to help facilitate understanding and awareness of school rules, consequences and empowerment strategies.

2. Students and parents will sign a Student Code of Conduct acceptance form at the beginning of each year.

3. Student wellbeing will be supported and addressed through the school’s policies and procedures for Behaviour Management, Bullying, Program for Students with Disabilities, Equal Opportunity, Health, First Aid, Mandatory Reporting, Medication and Sexual Harassment.

4. Students will be involved in the “You Can Do It - Program Achieve” and other relevant social skills programs to enhance their ability to display behaviours that reflect their knowledge of their responsibilities.

5. Students and teachers will continue to work collaboratively developing school rules and acceptable behaviours.

6. All teachers will consistently administer the school rules and their logical consequences.

7. All teachers will encourage pride in the school and a positive school spirit that promotes sharing, tolerance and empathy.

8. Anti social behaviour is viewed as a serious breach of school values and will not be tolerated.

9. Students will be given positive reinforcement that acknowledges and promotes their achievements, and where necessary, assistance and support to follow the Student Code of Conduct.

10. Students will be required to take appropriate responsibility for their behaviour and actions.

11. The school will provide adequate supervision in the playground.

12. All incidents requiring documenting, counselling and consulting with parents will be handled with discretion and abide by the school’s Codes of Conduct.

13. Support groups will be established for students with special needs to assist them to reach their potential.

14. Behaviour Modification Plans will be established to assist students develop greater social competences.

15. Informal meetings with parents or teachers will be established to address issues of concern.

16. A student welfare coordinator will be appointed.

17. Assistance will be sought from outside agencies when appropriate.

ACCEPTED CONSEQUENCES

1. Inappropriate behaviour implies the need for an accepted consequence to be implemented according to the Patterson Lakes Behaviour Management Policy and Procedures.

2. Serious and continued breaches of school rules may lead to suspension/expulsion procedures in line with Department of Education Guidelines.

RE-THINK TIME AND DETENTION PROCEDURES

- Re-Think Time is for a breach of school yard rules
- Re-Think Time is arranged for the next rostered time following the incident. In some cases this may occur the same day but in others the following day.
- Teachers are rostered to take Re-Think Time.
- Students spend 25 minutes at lunch time (1:50-2:15) for their Re-Think Time in a room designated by the rostered teacher, completing a Re-Think Time form and discussing it with the teacher.
- The student should return the signed Re-Think Time form to the Discipline Coordinator the following day.
- If a student incurs 3 Re-Think Times during the course of the year, he/she will receive an automatic after school detention the day following the third Re-Think Time. This will take place from 3:30 – 4:00 pm with either the Principal or Assistant Principal. When parents come to pick up their child following the detention, a discussion regarding the student’s behaviour will take place. After another 2 Re-Think Times, the student will receive an in-school suspension for a day. This means the student will be withdrawn from their classroom to work in the office under the supervision of the Principal or Assistant Principal. Relevant class work will be provided by the class teacher for the day. Each subsequent Re-Think Time will incur a suspension, either home or in-school, at the Principal’s discretion.

YELLOW CARD PROCEDURE

- A Yellow Card will be issued to any student who is removed from a specialist or class lesson for a breach of classroom rules.
- The teacher upon issuing the student with a Yellow Card, will send them to another class with two other students.
- The teacher issuing the Yellow Card will record the details in the Re-Think book and a note will be sent home to parents to inform them of the misdemeanour.
- If a student receives 3 Yellow Cards in one year he/she will automatically receive an after school detention. The detention procedure and further consequences will take place as outlined in the “Re-Think Time and Detention Procedures”