

1. INTRODUCTION

St Ursula's College is a Catholic Day and Boarding Secondary College educating young women in the traditions and ethos of the Presentation Sisters and Nano Nagle. As a College, we acknowledge that each person is made in the image of God, and we foster an environment in which the inherent dignity of all persons is recognised and respected.

This Code of Conduct embraces our College values and is a broad outline of behavioural principles, expectations, and ideals. It provides guidelines to promote positive and appropriate behaviours to ensure that all interactions with students, community members and staff are respectful, honest, courteous, sensitive, tactful, and considerate.

2. RATIONALE

The Code of Conduct aligns with our College and Gospel values and seeks to:

1. Create an environment of care in the College based on Gospel Values.
2. Promote the development of quality relationships that are based on our six College Values of Faith, Respect, Excellence, Compassion, Simplicity and Hospitality.
3. Develop relevant learning experiences which foster respect, self-discipline, initiative, responsibility, creativity, leadership, and a sense of achievement.
4. Establish an environment of care, personal growth, and support.

This Code of Conduct provides students with guidelines for the effective development of positive relationships within the College community and assists in promoting the behaviours that are in keeping with the College's vision and values.

3. SCOPE

For the purpose of this Student Code of Conduct, students mean a current or enrolled student.

This Code of Conduct outlines expected behaviours to support a climate of care, respect, and growth.

4. COMMUNICATION AND INTERACTION WITH STAFF, OTHER STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS

St Ursula's College is committed to open, honest, and timely communication with, and between, all members of the College community. We believe that communication should be respectful, relevant, measured, amicable and sensitive. All students are expected to interact civilly and respectfully with staff, other students, and visitors to the College. Written and spoken communication should be courteous and respectful. Abusive language, raising your voice, insulting or violent behaviour is not appropriate.

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5. PARTICIPATION IN THE MISSION OF THE COLLEGE

Students at St Ursula's College are expected to bear witness to their beliefs in Gospel values by:

- Actively and respectfully participating in Religious Education classes, College and Parish liturgies and Masses, Retreat Days and Prayer opportunities
- Showing respect for *Faith* and for the practice of religious rituals.

6. USE OF TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media can be defined as how we use technology to communicate and connect with others. Despite the range of positive uses for social media, there are also several ethical and legal issues associated with its use. Many people may hold the mistaken belief that anything published online will be without legal consequence. However, all students of the College should be aware that there are potential legal liabilities and College consequences that may arise, particularly in relation to inappropriate use of social media.

Students are required to abide by privacy laws and the College's expectations, by complying with the following:

- Respecting others' personal boundaries, by not using their personal online presence to raise College matters or otherwise engage in disrespectful behaviour.
- Not mentioning or discussing College staff, students, and community members in a negative or defamatory way which may bring the College or any other member of the College community into disrepute.
- All interaction with the College's social media channels should be positive and in accordance with the College's values. The College reserves the right to review all comments and remove any that are inappropriate, offensive or that do not reflect our College values.
- Students in College uniform represent the College and photographs of yourself, or other students should not be posted if they have the potential to bring negative connotations towards the College, its staff, or students.
- Photographs and videos containing other students or staff should not be posted without their express consent.
- No social media accounts, blogs or groups may be established or operated in the College's name or any of our associated entities and or their derivatives without the express permission of the College.
- Images owned by the College, including the College logo, should not be distributed in any manner without prior permission of the College.
- Creating and forwarding of inappropriate material will not be tolerated.

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7. CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We recognise that students are often actively involved in the sporting and co-curricular events of the College. We encourage students to participate in such activities in the spirit intended. The College has high expectations of students at these events and activities.

Students are expected to comply with the following principles when attending co-curricular activities:

- Students involved in co-curricular activities should do so principally for their enjoyment and should always be encouraged to abide by the rules.
- Students are to value that honest effort is as important as victory, so results are accepted without undue disappointment.
- Students should work towards performance improvement and participating in a respectful manner. Never ridicule or yell at a person for making a mistake or for losing.
- Do not publicly question the referee's or official's judgement or his or her honesty.
- Students are to demonstrate respect for coaches, managers, and officials. They give of their time and resources to provide recreational activities for all students; and,
- Students must wear the appropriate College uniform and personal protective clothing suitable for the activity.

8. CLASSROOM CONDUCT

All students are to strive for *Excellence* in their learning by:

- Being prepared for learning and seeking their own personal excellence by working to the best of their ability.
- Being punctual to class.
- Using learning tools and resources as intended.
- Being respectful of others in accessing their learning i.e., not being disruptive in class.
- Following the College learning and assessment procedures.
- Behaving in a manner that upholds their dignity as well as the dignity of others.
- Speaking and acting courteously to all members of the College community.
- Acting in a friendly manner towards each other, both individually and in group learning situations.
- Completing all set homework tasks.

9. GENERAL CONDUCT

Students are expected to comply with the following general conduct principles:

- Support the Principal and staff in the development of a Christ-centred learning community based upon the principles of Catholic education.
- Accept responsibility for their learning through a positive approach to growth and aspiration to personal excellence.
- Treat all members of the College community with respect and courtesy.
- Students of the College are also expected to comply with College policies and reasonable directions, including those relating to health, safety, and communications with the College.

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- Refrain from gossiping about or criticising other members of the community.
- Wear the College uniform correctly and with pride.
- Dress appropriately for College functions and activities.
- Respect others' learning space (in the case of Boarding, personal spaces).
- Use technology correctly to advance learning and personal growth.
- Consider and care for the wellbeing and safety of self and others.
- Be responsible and demonstrate integrity.
- Demonstrate kindness and forgiveness.

10. BREACH OF CONDUCT

The consequences for breaching this Code of Conduct will be determined by the Principal and/or their delegate, and may include, but is not limited to, one of the following:

- Ineligibility for Student Leadership positions.
- Ineligibility for College awards.
- The College may, where appropriate, involve other authorities.
- The College may take other such steps as it deems appropriate according to the nature of the breach. In cases of extreme or prolonged breaches of this Code of Conduct, the College may terminate or suspend the enrolment of the student.

11. STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOUR

Students should act according to the following guidelines:

Communication

- Use courteous and acceptable written and spoken language. Refrain from the use of profane, insulting, harassing, aggressive or otherwise offensive language.
- Accept that swearing, and the use of derogatory terms, sexual jokes, innuendo, and other inappropriate language in the College environment will not be tolerated.
- Give encouraging and constructive feedback rather than negative criticism.
- Under no circumstances should a student approach another in a confrontational manner.

Relationships

- Respect diversity in people, their ideas and opinions, and treat others fairly, regardless of their race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability.
- Respect the legal and moral rights of others and treat them with dignity, civility, and respect always, and especially when there is a disagreement.
- Respect the value and importance of staff, other students, and all visitors within the College community.
- Acknowledge and affirm the success of other students.
- Refrain from public criticism of College students and staff and College activities and events.

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- Refrain from actions and behaviour that constitutes harassment or discrimination, including inappropriate use of social media and email.

Ethical Conduct

- Support the College in the development of a learning community based on our Presentation traditions and Gospel values, to work in a cooperative and positive manner, and uphold our College Values, always.
- Demonstrate honesty and integrity.
- Always act in the best interests of students, their families, and staff members.
- Show proper care and regard for the College property and the property of others.
- Take appropriate measures to help those in need.

Safety

- Support the College's policies and acknowledge that the Principal is responsible for implementing these policies.
- Comply with all relevant policies and procedures of the College.
- Be aware of the emergency evacuation procedures.

Resources

- Use all College property and resources with respect.
- Care for the environment by not littering, defacing or wilfully damaging property.
- Do not bring chewing gum to school.
- Report any damage as soon as possible.

Conflict Resolution

- Seek staff assistance, if necessary, to resolve conflict peacefully.
- Work with staff, and other students, to deal promptly with areas of concern.
- Accept staff decisions and follow their directions.
- Agree to engage in the Restorative Justice model implemented at the College to support conflict resolution.

Students must not:

- Verbally abuse, threaten, or inflict bodily harm on another person by any physical aggression, or encourage others to do so.
- Be in possession of, or under the influence of, or provide others with, unsanctioned or illicit substances.
- Chew gum at school.
- Touch, handle, push or otherwise physically or sexually engage with students, staff or others in a manner which is not appropriate and may endanger the health, safety, and wellbeing of that person.
- Engage in any form of cyber-bullying or cyber-abuse

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STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

- Send or transmit/share inappropriate, offensive, or explicit text messages, photos, or videos.
- Use language or conduct that is likely to offend, harass, bully, or unfairly discriminate against any student, teacher, contractor or visitor.
- Engage in theft, fraud, or misuse of the College resources.
- Damage or deface another student's locker, lock, or any other belongings.
- Use another student's device.
- Leave the school grounds without permission.
- Possess or provide others with weapons.

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