

Carncot Independent School Code of Conduct Policy

At Carncot Independent School we are very fortunate to have a supportive and friendly parent body. Our parents recognise that educating children is a process that involves a good working partnership between parents, the School and the wider school community, in order to equip children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons, we continue to welcome and encourage parents/carers to participate fully and positively in the life of our school.

The purpose of this policy is to remind all parents, carers and (where applicable) visitors to our school about conduct expected from them.

We expect parents, carers and visitors to:

- Respect and demonstrate the School Values (Respect Integrity Caring Honesty Excellence Responsibility) in speech and action.
- Understand that both teachers and parents need to work together for the benefit of their children.
- Clarify a child's version of events with the School in order to bring about a balanced and successful solution to any issue.
- Correct their own child's behaviour, especially in public where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive or unsafe behaviour.
- Approach the School to help resolve any issues of concern as a first action
- Avoid using staff as threats to admonish their child's behaviour.

In order to support a harmonious and safe school environment, the School cannot tolerate parents, carers and visitors exhibiting the following:

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of a classroom, an employee's office, office area or any other area of the school grounds, including team matches off site.
- Using loud/or offensive language or losing one's temper.
- Threatening to harm a member of school staff, Trust Board member, visitor, fellow parent/carer or pupil, regardless of whether or not the behaviour constitutes a criminal offence.
- Damaging or destroying school property.
- Abusive or threatening e-mails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the School or any of its pupils/parents/staff, at the School, on Facebook or other social media or web forum platform or public forum. (See Appendix 1). Any concerns parents may have about the School must be made through the appropriate channels by following the escalation hierarchy, by firstly speaking to the class teacher, then if necessary, the Junior/Senior School Team Leader and finally the Principal, so that they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.
- The use of physical or verbal aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physical punishment of your own child on school premises.
- Approaching someone else's child in order to discuss or chastise them because of the actions of this child towards their own child. (Such an approach to a child may be seen to be an assault on that child and may have legal consequences).
- Smoking and consumption of alcohol or other drugs on school property.
- Dogs being brought onto school premises.

Should **any** of the above behaviour occur on school premises the School may feel it is necessary to contact the appropriate authorities and, if necessary, even ban the offending adult from entering the school grounds.

We trust that parents and carers will assist our school with the implementation of this policy and we thank you for your continuing support of the School.

Agreed by the Carncot Independent Trust Board 18 March 2016

Appendix 1

Inappropriate use of Social Network Site

Social media websites are used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, principals, school staff, and in some cases, other parents/pupils. The Trust Board of Carncot Independent School considers it unacceptable to use social media websites in this way. Any concerns you may have must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, the Principal or the Chair of The Trust Board, so the concern can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

In the event that any pupil or parent/carer of a child/ren being educated at Carncot Independent School is found to be posting libellous or defamatory comments on Facebook or other social network sites, they will be reported to the appropriate 'Report Abuse' section of the network site. All social network sites have clear rules about the content which can be posted on the site and they provide robust mechanisms to report contact or activity which breaches this. The School will also expect that any parent/carer or pupil removes such comments immediately.

In serious cases, to ensure its good reputation, the School will also consider the legal options to deal with any such misuse (including cyber bullying) of social networking and other sites. The Carncot Independent School Trust Board will deal with this as a serious incident of school bullying.

The Trust Board expects that parents would make all persons responsible for collecting children aware of this policy.

Agreed May 2016

Review April 2018