



Saint Mark's Coptic Orthodox College
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School Community Charter Parents & College

Being Collaborative. Being Respectful. Maintaining Communication.

The following School Community Charter outlines the responsibilities of parents, carers, educators and school staff at St Mark's Coptic Orthodox College to ensure our learning and teaching environments are collaborative, supportive and cohesive. The basis of this Charter is developed from the School Community Charter developed by the NSW Government for all Public Schools in NSW (January 2019).

What our School Provides

St Mark's Coptic Orthodox College works to create positive environments for students, staff and the entire school community that support student learning. We strive to ensure that every student is known, valued and cared for academically, socially and emotionally.

The best education occurs when home and school work together.

Positive environments

It is important that our school develops a positive environment and that parents and carers are kept informed of students' progress and school announcements.

We treat each other with respect

We prioritise the wellbeing of all students and staff

Unsafe behaviour is not acceptable in our school

We work together with the school

Parents and carers can expect:

- To be welcomed in our school to work in partnership to promote student learning;
- Communication from school will be timely, polite and informative;
- Professional relationships with school staff are based on transparency, honesty and mutual respect; and
- To be treated fairly. Tolerance and understanding are promoted as we respect diversity.
- To attend to all matters with respect for each other, not to verbally abuse or intimidate, harass or defame individuals within the school or wider community at external venues.

Communicating with our school

Our staff will find the time to talk to you when they can give you their full attention. Please remember that while our staff are in class or dealing with other matters or commitments, they may not be available to answer your questions immediately.

Our school and community will make sure that written communication is appropriate, fair and easy to read. We encourage you to use email and social media appropriately to connect with the school and stay up-to-date with up-coming events.

Respectful communication is a right

In all workplaces people have the right to feel respected. Unacceptable and offensive or intimidatory behaviour has no place in our school.

To ensure the wellbeing of students, staff and the community in our school, steps will be taken to address unacceptable behaviour. This may include restricting contact with the school, or in more serious cases, referral to NSW Police.

Unacceptable behaviour may include, but is not limited to:

- Aggressive or intimidating actions such as violence, threatening gestures or physical proximity
- Aggressive or intimidating language, including the use of obscenities, making sexist, racist or derogatory comments or using a rude tone
- Treating members of the school community differently due to aspects such as race, religion or disability
- Inappropriate, defamatory and/or time wasting communication through written, any social media or verbal (telephone)
- Abuse from either employees or parent/s and community members will not be accepted nor tolerated and if this occurs, may result in physical exclusion from the school grounds, or in more serious instances involve a restraining order or AVO being established.
- Serious instances may also require the withdrawal of families from enrolment/employment if the matter cannot be resolved or settled with mutual respect and according to the Rules and Regulations and Conditions of Enrolment, or Employment as may be the case.

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