

# Community Code of Conduct



## Rationale

Glen Waverley Secondary College (GWSC) has always enjoyed developing strong connections with students, parents and guardians. At GWSC we value our diverse community and respect the rights, beliefs and practices of individuals and their families. Parents and guardians play a key role in the education of their children, and from time to time raise complaints with the school regarding a range of matters associated with their child. At GWSC we attempt to resolve complaints and concerns efficiently and fairly within the policy framework of the College and DET. This Code of Conduct aims to ensure that everyone who works at or visits the College is able to do so in a safe and harmonious manner, for the ongoing development of positive relationships within the College Community.

For the purpose of this Code of Conduct, the term “College Community” comprises the principal, staff, coaches, parents, guardians, relatives, friends, supporters, carers and invitees of the College, who attend at the school, or elsewhere, for the purposes of visiting, viewing, participating, supporting or being present for any official event or social activity held by, or for the benefit of the College and its students.

This Code of Conduct aims to protect staff and students and reduce any opportunities for child abuse or harm to occur. It also assists in understanding how to avoid, or better manage challenging behaviours and situations. It is intended to complement the *Child Safety and Wellbeing Act 2005* - Child Safe Standards as outlined in Ministerial Order No. 870. Additionally it complements: DET policy, College policies and procedures, professional standards, legislation, codes of conduct and ethics as these apply to staff and other personnel.

The Principal and school leaders of GWSC will support implementation and monitoring of the Code of Conduct, and will plan, implement and monitor arrangements to provide an inclusive, safe and orderly school. The Principal and school leaders of GWSC will also provide information and support to enable the Code of Conduct to operate effectively.

## Implementation

The Code of Conduct applies in all school situations, including travel to and from school, school camps and in the use of digital technology and social media.

### Acceptable Behaviour towards staff

- Staff at GWSC will strive to work effectively and efficiently within the policy framework of the College, DET and relevant legislation.
- **We ask that members of the College Community treat all staff with respect at all times, regardless of any grievance that they may have with the staff member or the College.**

- Parent complaints will be managed in accordance with GWSC's *Addressing Parent Complaints Policy* and *Complaints Resolution Policy*.
- Comments of a disrespectful or threatening nature will not be tolerated. In the event that any person acts aggressively, or is abusive to staff, either verbally or through written communication, they will be directed to the Principal or their representative.
- The Principal or their representative has the right to direct any person to leave the school grounds in the event that they pose a disruption to the orderly running of the school, or act aggressively towards any staff member, student or other member of the school community. Depending on the nature of the interaction, the Principal, or their representative may be required to take additional steps to involve other authorities.

#### Acceptable Behaviour towards students

Students are to be treated with respect and care in accordance with the following:

- GWSC Statement of Commitment to the Child Safe Standards
- GWSC Equal Opportunity and Anti-Harassment Policy
- GWSC Anti-Bulling Policy
- GWSC Duty of Care Policy
- Ministerial Order No. 870
- *The Education and Training Reform Act 2006*
- Disability Standards for Education (2005)
- The Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

#### Review

- This Code of Conduct will be reviewed every three years.
- Ratified by School Council February 2018.
- Next review February 2021.

