

**HELENA COLLEGE**

*Bringing out the best together*



# Helena College Student Code of Conduct





## Student Code of Conduct

### Introduction

At Helena College we recognise that effective learning can only occur in a secure environment where the rights and responsibilities of others are known and respected and where standards and rules are fairly and consistently applied.

### Values

Students are expected to uphold the values of Helena College. Our values are:

- Integrity and responsibility
- Inclusivity and participation
- Caring and compassion
- Respect for self, others and our surroundings

These values are to be upheld in the way you conduct yourself not only in the College, but also in the community.

### Rights and Responsibilities of Students

Students are expected to observe and uphold this statement of rights and responsibilities as is appropriate for their age and maturity:

You have the right to:	You have the responsibility to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reach your full learning potential in a safe and supportive environment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enable others to learn in a safe and supportive environment.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be safe.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow College policies, procedures and the reasonable directions of staff at all times.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be treated with respect, courtesy and kindness.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Treat others with respect, courtesy and kindness.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be an active part of and contribute positively to the community.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actively participate by engaging in all the College programmes and contribute positively to the community.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be treated fairly and justly.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accept and consider the consequences of your actions.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have your human rights, privacy and other legal rights respected.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respect the privacy, human dignity, human rights and legal rights of others.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have your personal boundaries respected.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To respect the personal boundaries of others.</li> </ul>

For clarity, these rights and responsibilities mean that bullying, harassment and other forms of peer-to-peer abuse between students and between students and staff are prohibited. For more information refer to Bullying Prevention and Intervention, Social Media – Student Usage and Harassment (Student Against Student).

### Personal Boundaries

Personal boundaries are parameters that describe the limits of a relationship in circumstances where one person (a student) interacts with other people including fellow students and staff. A healthy relationship, whether student to student or student to teacher, consists of two individuals each with a clearly defined sense of his or her own identity. Setting clear boundaries or limits is essential to a mutually respectful relationship. Boundaries:

- establish each person's role within a relationship
- protect a student's emotional wellbeing
- help students to feel able to challenge problematic behaviour when necessary
- vary between students based on factors such as their personality, gender, and culture.



Professional boundaries exist between students and staff members due to the power imbalance that exists. Our **Staff and Student Professional Boundaries Policy** sets out situations where professional boundary violations may occur and some strategies to minimise the risk of boundary violations.

Students are expected to be conscious of the personal boundaries of others, such as students and staff, and also, how their own personal boundaries may be breached. The following is a list of examples of conduct that may affect student boundaries:

- Physical contact
- Verbal and electronic communications
- Gifts, loans, borrowing
- Giving praise
- Language
- Information-sharing
- Attire.

Personal boundaries become a concern when they are, or are threatened to be, breached by the conduct of others. A student's personal boundaries may be breached by inappropriate conduct committed by another student or a staff member.

For example:

- swearing
- the use of sexual innuendo, inappropriate language and/or material
- unwarranted and inappropriate touching
- provocative dressing.

Students who are concerned about a breach of their personal boundaries, or suspect that the personal boundaries of other students are being threatened, should tell a member of staff or a Child Protection Officer.

### **Upholding the Values, Rights and Responsibilities**

If a student is aware that another person is not upholding the College values, rights and/or responsibilities they are encouraged to report this to someone they feel comfortable with such as a staff member or trusted adult or by using the External Disputes and Complaints Resolution Policy and Guidelines.

### **Breach of the Code**

Students are expected to abide by College] rules and the policies of the College as well as the directions of teachers.

A breach of this code will be dealt with according to our Student Discipline Policy.

### **Raising Concerns About Safety**

Students are provided with information about and encouraged to use multiple pathways to raise child safety concerns about or at the [#schoolCAPS], including concerns about the behaviour of other students. These include informal and formal ways, an 'anonymous' way, and external child advocacy or child safety organisations. See Child Safe Complaints Management.

If a student has concerns about their safety, or the behaviour of others, it's important that they tell a trusted adult. This could be a parent or carer, a trusted teacher or a College Child Protection Officer.

Our Staff are committed to ensuring that all students feel empowered to speak up and be heard and will take all concerns raised by students seriously and ensure that the student receives ongoing support.

### **Review**

Authors	Date	Comments
Executives	6/5/2018	Created
Risk and Compliance Officer	10/6/2020	Scheduled review, incl Raising Concerns About Safety