



**Bibra Lake & Parkerville Campus**

# **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS & GUARDIANS – V3.1**

Code of Conduct for Parents & Guardians	
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Compliance interactions: and Internal Policy	Code of Conduct for Staff, Contractors, Volunteers & Council Members Disability & Anti-Discrimination Policy Grievance & Concern Policy Health & Safety Policy National Child Safe Organisation Prevention of Bullying Policy Student Code of Conduct
Delegated Policy Owner (Custodian)	School administrator
Procedures and forms:	Not applicable
Supporting documents:	Not applicable
PWS Website:	Yes
Links:	Not applicable
Legislation:	Internal
Circulation:	Pabulum newsletter
Feedback:	pws@pws.wa.edu.au
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*“At Perth Waldorf School we are committed to promoting the safety, health and wellbeing of children and young people and expect all school staff, parents, students, volunteers and visitors to the school to share that commitment. Perth Waldorf School explicitly forbids the use of any form of child abuse, corporal punishment or other degrading punishment.”*

## **INTENDED USE**

This Code of Conduct (the Code) provides members of the School Community with guidelines for the effective development of positive relationships within the School Community and assists in promoting the values that are in keeping with the School’s purpose and values.

All students, parents, teachers, support staff and volunteers have the right to be safe and feel safe in the School community. The Code of Conduct outlines guidelines to parents and guardians as to the expected standard of behaviour. This Code is intended to apply to all parents and guardians during their involvement with the School. With this right comes the responsibility to be law-abiding citizens and to be accountable for actions that put at risk, the safety or wellbeing of others.

## **PREFACE**

Parents and guardians are an indispensable part of a child’s education. We recognise that parents and guardians are part of the school community, and have a right to participate in their child’s education.

In order to balance the rights of parents and guardians, students, teachers and staff, we expect parents to uphold a certain standard of behaviour. Similar to the Code of Conduct that staff must adhere to, the parent/guardian Code of Conduct reflects the high level of duty of care of children and also helps to ensure a friendly, safe and cohesive school community.

This Code does not attempt to provide a detailed and exhaustive list of what to do in every aspect of your involvement with the school. Instead, it sets out general expectations of the standards of behaviour required.

The Code places an obligation on all parents and guardians to take responsibility for their own conduct and to work with the school and its staff cooperatively to achieve a consultative and collaborative place where people are proud to be associated.

## **WHO HAS TO COMPLY WITH THE CODE OF CONDUCT?**

Parents and guardians who have child/ren enrolled in the School must conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the Code. Conduct that is not consistent with the Code needs to be addressed accordingly.

## **WHAT IS EXPECTED OF YOU AS A PARENT OR GUARDIAN AT PERTH WALDORF SCHOOL?**

1. Parents and guardians should set an example for their children, and the children of others. They have a shared responsibility with their children, other parents/guardians and the School to ensure that respect and concern for others is shown and that their children abide by the Student Code of Conduct, covering the following areas:

- Participation – in your schoolwork, community and other personal endeavours;
- Kindness – for your teachers, parents, peers and members of the community;
- Responsibility – for your actions, in the classroom, toward others and on the playground;
- Safety – everyone should feel safe and secure at school.

2. Respect for the privacy of others:

- Class contact lists are distributed expressly for the purpose of personal communication, i.e.: play dates and connecting with other families on a personal basis;
- Class lists and contact details may not be shared with anyone outside of the parents of the relevant class or cohort grouping;
- Class contact lists and personal information may not be used for the benefit of others and specifically, must not be used for business pursuits or networking opportunities;
- Class contact lists may not be used for bulk e-mails relating to school business, unless the e-mail has been approved by the teacher and arrives through the appropriate channel.

3. Parents and guardians should uphold the values of Perth Waldorf School and act in good faith and in line with the ethos of the school and endeavour to:

- Work in partnership with the school to enhance the learning outcomes and support the wellbeing and conduct of their child;
- Support and demonstrate trust in teaching staff to maintain a safe, secure and respectful learning environment for all students;
- Contribute positively to behaviour, academic and other personalised support plans that relate to their child;
- Act appropriately on Perth Waldorf School grounds;
- Be aware that threatening behaviour and harassment of staff, parents or students is unacceptable;
- Respect and comply with reasonable requests or directions of the Administrator or other members of staff.

4. Perth Waldorf School has a range of policies which are regularly updated to ensure compliance and good management of the school. These can be accessed via the school's website or the front office.

## **SOCIAL MEDIA CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS AT PWS**

1. When using social media, including WhatsApp groups, all members of our school community are expected to:

- Refrain from posting or responding to content that is offensive, obscene, defamatory, threatening, harassing, bullying, discriminatory, hateful, violent, racist, sexist, infringing on copyright, or otherwise unlawful.

- Maintain appropriate personal and professional boundaries.
- Use the technology responsibly and respectfully
- Ensure that your online behaviour reflects the same honesty, respect and consideration as expected in face-to-face communication.
- Respect the privacy and confidentiality of others. Always seek permission from other parents before posting, sharing or tagging images that include their children.
- Ensure that all content posted is accurate and not misleading.
- Reflect on how your post may impact your personal and professional character, as well as the wellbeing of others.
- Think carefully before posting.

## **CLASS WHATSAPP GROUP GUIDELINES**

Class WhatsApp groups and similar online forums can be valuable tools for parents and carers. They allow for the easy sharing of official information, organizing class events and building community. However, if these groups are used for sharing personal views, airing grievances, or seeking opinions on concerns they can quickly turn into a digital "rumour mill." This can create false impressions, stir up emotions and unsettle parents who are not directly involved. The rapid spread of opinions online can cause harm that may be difficult to reverse, especially when teachers—who are often not part of these groups—are unaware of the growing concerns.

To maintain a positive and respectful online environment, it is essential that these groups are monitored by the class carer and used appropriately.

At Perth Waldorf School, we have a **Grievance and Concern Policy**. When class-related issues arise, the first step is to have a conversation with the class teacher. Try to approach the conversation with curiosity and a collaborative mindset, aiming to resolve issues together.

## **ADDRESSING BREACHES OF THIS CODE OF CONDUCT**

The consequences to a member of the School Community for breaching this Code of Conduct will be determined by the Administrator or delegate in accordance with the School's Grievance and Concern Policy. The breach will be investigated and addressed accordingly.

## **SUPPORTING OUR CHILDREN**

Perth Waldorf School is a school with a wonderful community. We place a high value on parents' engagement and support of each other as part of our community. Management of the school is carried out by the Administrator with the support of the Perth Waldorf School Council and, depending on the level of decision, in consultation with College and Faculty, according to Rudolf Steiner's indications.

## **PASTORAL SUPPORT**

Children go through multiple changes in their lives. At Perth Waldorf School we adopt a resilience-based support model. In the case of a family tragedy or difficult circumstances, the school will do everything possible to support the child within the context of their learning. It is encouraged, but not expected that the School Community will support each other through a crisis period.

**As Parents, we can further support our children in learning and encourage them by:**

- Being good role models. It's what we do that really counts;
- Ensuring that our children are equipped to learn;
- Showing an active but non-invasive interest in our children's school work and progress;
- Showing respect and responsibility for our environment;
- Being involved in our school community.

## **CHILD PROTECTION**

- At all times you must promote the safety, health and wellbeing of children and young people;
- You should avoid situations where you are alone in an enclosed space with a student;
- You must not impose physical punishment on a student;
- Except in an emergency or injury, physical contact with students is forbidden;
- You must not have a romantic or sexual relationship with a student. It is irrelevant of the nature of the relationship, consensual or non-consensual or condoned by parents or caregivers;
- You must report any concerns you may have about any employee, contractor or volunteer engaging in child abuse. This includes self-disclosure if the allegation involves you.

## APPENDIX 1

As of the adoption of this policy (Term 2, 2021), parents and guardians are asked to sign this Code of Conduct at the time of enrolment. On occasion, current parents and guardians may be asked to read and sign this Code of Conduct to confirm acceptance.



**PERTH WALDORF  
SCHOOL**  
Steiner Education

### Code of Conduct for Parents & Guardians ACCEPTANCE

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I have read, understood and agree to comply with the terms of this Code of Conduct for Parents & Guardians.

_____ Parent/Guardian 1	_____ Name	_____ Signature	_____ Date
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_____ Parent/Guardian 2	_____ Name	_____ Signature	_____ Date
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