



ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE
TOWNSVILLE

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

The Student Code of Conduct at St Patrick's College Townsville is based on the values of the Mercy tradition and promotes the fullness of life and nurtures excellence in learning for all young women in a joyful, respectful and inclusive environment. St Patrick's College Townsville acknowledges the Rights of Children and will ensure policies, processes, protocols and behaviours consistent with Rights of Children, including:

- The right to feel safe, included and valued as a member of the St Patrick's College Townsville community
- The right to a voice in decisions that concern them
- The right to be treated with respect and dignity by all stakeholders at the College
- The right to express concerns in a respectful manner
- The right to a high-quality education

Students are asked to ensure they conduct themselves in a manner which upholds Rights of Children, and is broadly in line with:

- Respect for themselves
- Respect for the dignity of others, treating staff, students, parents/guardians and third parties appropriately, refraining from actions or words that impact or threaten to impact physical, reputational, psychosocial or cultural safety
- Respect for the reputation of the College

We work in partnership with each student and their family in developing a Christian basis for social behaviour and expect our families to support the Student Code of Conduct and other policies. It is the responsibility of each student to behave in accordance with this code. Breaches of the Student Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action, including suspension and enrolment cancellation (at the discretion of the College Principal).

The Student Code of Conduct applies to all aspects of College life: day school, boarding school and activities that are College related. It includes transition to and from the College, and for all interactions in which the student is wearing College uniform.

Respect for the Reputation of the College

Students must take pride in their appearance and to this end, their uniforms are expected to be kept clean and in good repair. All students are required to wear correct College uniform to all College functions and for sporting fixtures. Hair is to be tied back when it reaches the collar and colour is to remain of a natural tone. Jewellery is to be kept to a minimum as per the Uniform Policy. Cosmetic enhancements (eyelash extensions, false eyelashes, outlandish hair colours, false nails, tattoos) are not permitted. Students must be in full College uniform in transitioning from home to the College. They may not wear the uniform with non-uniform items at any time, nor mix the academic and sports uniforms. Uniforms must not be worn for outside of school functions or events and students should not upload any inappropriate images to social media whilst wearing their College uniform.

Students will behave at all times in a manner which will not detract from the fine reputation enjoyed by the College. Offensive, anti-social or criminal behaviours will not be tolerated. A student committing such an offence may be asked to leave the College. These behaviours may include (but are not limited to) the following:

- A breach of academic integrity (refer to Academic Integrity Policy)
- Swearing or the use of offensive language



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- Inappropriate acts: smoking, drinking of alcohol, taking or distributing drugs, vapes, drug paraphernalia, accessing or distributing lewd images or pornographic content, making unnecessary or unwanted physical contact which harms or demeans
- Publication of content which undermines the reputation of students, staff or third parties connected to the College
- Stealing
- Harassment and bullying (of staff or students)

Students who represent the College for extracurricular events, or in leadership roles, are representing the College and have a duty to uphold the reputation of the College. Students are required to reflect and model standards of sportspersonship including: punctuality, attendance at training, ethical engagement, respect for equipment and facilities, spectators and participants. They must wear the uniform correctly and with pride, model safety and fair play, demonstrating modesty in success and generosity in defeat. All students must adhere strictly to the rules of the competition and show respect for the judgement or referees, umpires, adjudicators, following the directions of all activity organisers.

Respect for the Learning Environment and Engagement in College Life

All students are expected to take responsibility for their own learning and to work diligently, participate fully and prepare carefully for all classes. Behaviours inconsistent with this include, but are not limited to:

- High levels of non-attendance (unexplained)
- Persistent lateness to class (without reason)
- Failure to complete homework or assignments
- Disruption to the learning of others
- Failure to follow reasonable directions
- Non-attentiveness in classes or at guest speaker events

All students are required to attend weekly College assemblies, church services, religious rituals, retreats, carnivals and cultural events. Students are also strongly encouraged to participate in the broad range of activities and extracurricular pursuits provided at the College and to encourage the involvement of their peers. A student who accepts membership of a College team, club or society also accepts the commitments involved in that membership e.g. attendance at training, costs, uniform responsibilities.

Students whose attendance, non-cooperation or behaviour are incompatible with the expectations above, may be asked to leave the College.

Respect for Safety and Wellbeing

All must recognise that there are certain responsibilities involved in attendance at the College. These responsibilities are integral to maintaining student safety and enabling staff to effectively perform their duty of care. These include:

- Absolute cooperation with all compliance protocols, including lockdowns, emergency evacuations, drills, safety protocols in practical classrooms (following staff directions)
- Refraining from behaviours which go against the Respectful Relationships: Anti-Bullying Policy, including, but not limited to:
 - Name calling, teasing, ridiculing, sarcasm, spreading rumours, harassment, either in person, or online



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- Hitting, pushing or threatening violence, threatening to bring or use a weapon
- Damaging, removing or hiding belongings
- Making disrespectful comments about achievements, family, birth origin, culture, gender, religion, disability, physical appearance or mental state of mind
- Writing offensive notes or graffiti about others
- Hurtfully excluding another from a group
- Taking, and electronically distribution, or showing, or building awareness of images taken without consent
- Engaging in social or cultural practices that are intended to intimidate or scare others
- Any action which results in personal degradation of another, including, but not limited to disrobing a person, public sexual gestures or comments, unwelcome sexual touch, spreading malicious rumours and vexatious complaints

Refraining from:

- accessing or using social media platforms outside the national age limits or behaviour inconsistent with eSafety
- reckless behaviour, particularly during lockdowns, evacuations, drills, practical lessons, excursions and non-routine events, where the potential for harm is more likely
- bringing on site, using or distributing drugs, vapes, drug paraphernalia, tobacco, e-cigarettes, alcohol, betelnut, methylated spirits, aerosols or any other items which have the intention of causing harm
- publishing, accessing, distributing or inviting others to view inappropriate content, including, but not limited to:
 - Fight content, material that promotes hate speech, lewd images or video, perpetuation of illegal acts
 - Distortions of images that have been faked, doctored, artificially generated, such that it would cause embarrassment, damage to reputation, harm or psychosocial risk

Students must ensure appropriate protection of information, including:

- Their own or others private medical information
- Their own or others personal information (address, bank account details, phone number, passwords)

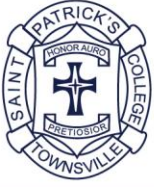
Students must ensure they follow attendance and leave protocols including:

During the operations of the Day School students must ensure:

- They do not leave the grounds for any purpose during the school day without leave from a member of the College administration. The parent/guardian/authorised person must sign the student out on departure and the student must sign in upon return. Except in the case of illness, a student must be in attendance on all days on which the College is open, unless special leave by the Principal has been granted.

During the operations of the Boarding School, students must ensure they:

- Follow all leave processes and protocols, including maintaining an obvious line of sight with supervisors, remaining in-bounds, and refraining from behaviours which could jeopardise safety.
- Remain in the Boarding House from 8.30pm to breakfast the next day, unless on approved leave or an approved organised Boarding event.



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The College takes very seriously its legal responsibility to ensure a safe learning and working environment for all. Acts which threaten self-safety, or the safety of others, may, at the Principal's discretion, result in suspension or withdrawal of enrolment.

Respect for Property

The College, may, on occasion, loan items to students. Students are required to return items on loan in the condition that they received them. Failure to promptly return items that have been loaned, will result in the costs of replacement being invoiced to families.

Mistreatment of property reveals a lack of concern for the owner of that property, whether the owner is an individual, the College or the community and as such, this behaviour is strictly forbidden. Students must refrain from:

- interfering with the belongings of another, without their permission or knowledge
- damaging or defacing College property
- disrespecting furniture or using it for purposes other than its functional design
- littering or purposefully engaging in behaviours which place undue burden on cleaning and Maintenance staff to rectify (e.g. pranking certain areas)

In addition to the above, in Boarding, students must follow appropriate standards of behaviour and care, keeping a reasonable standard of tidiness, cleanliness and not infringing on the rights of others to enjoy property, either by excessive noise at inappropriate hours, or by taking over a space. This includes, across: dormitory areas, common areas, bathroom areas and eating areas.

Where student behaviour results in damage to property, the costs of replacement or rectification will be invoiced to families. Where student behaviour in the boarding house, or the day school, impacts on the collective right of enjoyment of all parties, a student may be suspended or asked to leave the College.

Respect for the Authority of Staff

All students are required to follow reasonable directions from residential, educational, corporate staff, extracurricular coaches, or instrumental tutors. Reasonable directions are those which uphold College values, policies and protocols.

The Student Code of Conduct should be read in conjunction with other College policies, including:

- Enrolment Contract
- Respectful Relationships: Anti-Bullying Policy
- Communication Policy
- Attendance Policy
- Acceptable Use of Personal Devices Policy
- Acceptable Use of ICT Services Policy
- Academic Policies

As a condition of a student's enrolment at the College, parents/guardians agree to be bound by all College policies. There is an expectation that parents/guardians cooperate with teachers and administrators. There is also an expectation that parents/guardians require their children to uphold the rules of the College. The College reserves the unconditional right to suspend or ask to leave any student whose conduct for any reason is deemed by the administration of the College to be unsatisfactory.