

CODES OF PRACTICE

➤ GOVERNING COUNCIL

The strength of community participation in local governance and decision making lies in the relationships that are established and maintained within a school community. The school community elects or nominates Councillors to the Council placing its trust in the Council's consultation and decision-making processes and the integrity and diligence of each Councillor.

Each individual, therefore, in fulfilling the roles and responsibilities of a Councillor

- Must act honestly, in good faith and in the best interests of the school
- Must use due care and diligence
- Must recognise that the primary responsibility of the Council is to the school, but will have regard for the interests of all students
- Must use the powers of the position for a proper purpose and act, at all times, in the best interests of the Council and the school as a whole
- Must recognise the responsibility and accountability of the Council to the school community and the Minister
- Must not take improper advantage of the position as a governing councillor
- Must ensure that there is no conflict or apparent conflict between his/her own interests and duties with those of the Council and may need to have regard to any benefit or interest that potentially may arise for members of their immediate families, to the extent that they know their interests, as well as their own
- Has an obligation to be independent in judgement and actions and to take all reasonable steps to be satisfied as to the soundness of all decisions taken by Council
- Must not make improper use of information acquired as a governing councillor
- Must keep confidential the information received in the course of his/her duties, and not disclose or allow it to be disclosed, unless that disclosure has been authorised, or if it is required by law
- Must not engage in conduct likely to bring discredit upon the school or the Minister
- Has an obligation at all times, to act lawfully and to comply with the principles of this code of practice.

➤ STAFF

In addition to the specific role and responsibility statements, staff will interact and communicate appropriately, ensuring that:

- All members of the school community are treated in a respectful and empathetic manner
- Responding to advice, concerns and requests in a professional, positive manner following school and DETE procedures and policies
- The learning needs of students are paramount
- All members of staff contribute to the implementation of the school's Partnerships Plan
- Teaching programmes are consistent with the Curriculum Standards and Accountability Framework
- A positive contribution is made to whole school activities, including some out of school hours out of school hours commitments
- Encouraging and supporting peers in subschools and in general; managing conflicts using grievance procedures

- Conduct, including maintaining confidentiality, and attire reflect appropriate professional standards
- Skills and knowledge are continually expanded through self-reflection, seeking constructive feedback, undertaking training, development and professional reading as an on-going learner
- A positive contribution is made to developing and sustaining a productive teaching and learning environment
- Demonstrate the ability to manage and adapt to change

➤ **STUDENT**

Students have the right to learn in a safe, secure and orderly environment. A student will:

- Accept the responsibility for their own learning by negotiating processes and outcomes and actively engaging in the learning process
- Strive to do their best at all times; seek assistance when needed
- Accept responsibility for their own behaviour, within the School's Behaviour Code, and the classes' negotiated rules and consequences
- Show courtesy, respect and consideration; co-operate with staff, each other and school community members positively
- Manage differences in a reasonable and fair way. Use established grievance procedures to raise issues and resolve conflicts
- Contribute to school based decision-making. For example, class meetings and Student Representative Council
- Contribute to the maintenance of a positive learning environment
- Show pride in (and care for) their school and its environment
- Care for all personal, school and community property
- Wear safe and appropriate footwear and clothing, as detailed in the school's dress code and Sun Smart Policy

➤ **PARENTS**

Stirling North Primary School Community values the development of partnerships and effective relationships between its members. Parents/Caregivers have the right to participate in a friendly, safe and success-orientated environment. Parents/Caregivers will:

- Co-operate with staff to optimise student development and learning
- Assist the school in providing an open and friendly environment, which encourages all parents/caregivers to become informed about school management, curriculum and policies
- Give due regard to all forms of communication from the school, returning notices and/or monies as requested by stated deadlines
- Contribute to school based decision making at a range of levels and to the establishment of a set of shared values and expectations
- Provide positive support for the rules, codes of practice, programmes and decisions made by the school community
- Use established grievance procedures to raise matters of concern or resolve conflicts
- Support the work of the Governing Council, its subcommittees and activities
- Recognise and respect the diversity of families who are part of the school community