

Wilderness Arts College – Code of Conduct

In alignment with the VRQA Minimum Standards for School Registration

Purpose

This Code of Conduct sets clear expectations for the behaviour, relationships, and responsibilities of all members of the Wilderness Arts College community, including staff, students, parents/carers, volunteers, and visitors. It supports a culture of respect, inclusion, safety, and accountability in accordance with the VRQA's requirements for child safety, school governance, and positive student wellbeing.

1. Commitment to Child Safety

- The safety and wellbeing of children is our highest priority.
 - All members of the community must behave in ways that uphold the Child Safe Standards (2022).
 - Any form of child abuse, harm, neglect, or unsafe behaviour will not be tolerated.
 - Adults must maintain professional boundaries with students at all times.
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2. Respectful Behaviour

- All members of the school community are expected to treat others with dignity, kindness, and respect.
 - Bullying, discrimination, harassment, or violence of any kind is not tolerated.
 - We promote a culture of inclusion and equity, celebrating the diverse backgrounds and identities of all students and families.
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3. Student Responsibilities

Students are expected to:

- Follow teacher directions and school rules.
 - Treat peers and adults respectfully.
 - Care for their own and others' belongings and school property.
 - Use digital devices safely, responsibly, and only as directed (see IT Policy).
 - Contribute to a safe and calm learning environment.
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4. Staff Responsibilities

Staff are expected to:

- Follow all school policies, including Child Safety, Duty of Care, and Mandatory Reporting obligations.
 - Act as positive role models, maintaining ethical and professional behaviour.
 - Build respectful and inclusive relationships with students and families.
 - Promote a culture of safety, trust, and learning.
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5. Parent & Carer Responsibilities

Parents and carers are expected to:

- Support the school's values and policies.
- Communicate respectfully with staff, students, and other parents.

- Work collaboratively with staff in the best interests of their child's wellbeing and education.
 - Address concerns through the appropriate channels.
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6. Volunteers and Visitors

All volunteers and visitors must:

- Sign in at the school office and wear identification while on site.
 - Follow the instructions of staff and uphold this Code of Conduct.
 - Comply with the school's Child Safety Policy and related procedures.
 - Hold a current Working With Children Check (WWCC) if volunteering regularly or in child-facing roles.
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7. Breaches of the Code

Breaches of this Code of Conduct will be taken seriously and responded to in line with:

- Behaviour management and discipline procedures
- Child safety reporting procedures
- VRQA compliance obligations
- Relevant laws and departmental guidelines

In serious cases, this may result in suspension of access to school grounds, student disciplinary action, or legal reporting.

Review and Access

This Code of Conduct is reviewed every year or after any significant incident.
Printed and translated versions are available upon request.
For questions, concerns, or to report a breach, please contact:

Christopher James – Principal
Phone: 0414 306 772
Email: *Wilderness Arts College*