



Student Discipline Policy & Code of Conduct

Discipline

Related Policy Link

Bullying Prevention and Intervention

<https://mansfieldrudolfsteiner.policyconnect.com.au/module/223/page/4f6bff19-f13d-46f3-a79a-bd0ca5a5d350.md>

Source of Obligation

The ETR Act (s 4.3.1(6)) requires that our policies relating to the discipline of students are based on principles of procedural fairness and must not permit corporal punishment.

Discipline Policy

Every student has the right to a learning environment free from bullying and intimidation and to feel safe and happy at school. They also have the right to be treated fairly and with dignity. Discipline is necessary to ensure the safety and welfare of all our students, teachers, and staff and to provide a conducive learning environment. This Student Discipline Policy & Student Code of Conduct sets the framework through which Mansfield Steiner School and Kindergarten manages student discipline.

All students are encouraged to:

- show kindness and respect for others.
- allow fellow students to learn and teachers to teach.
- care for the environment in which we live and work.
- Follow instructions when the safety of self and others is concerned.

These simple undertakings form the basis of our School Discipline Policy. Minor breaches of discipline are handled in the classroom, playgrounds, and excursion venues. Repeated or serious breaches of the school Student Code of Conduct are referred to Heads of Faculty, Deputy Principal(s), or the Principal.

Behaviour Management

Mansfield Steiner School seeks to develop a culture of positive discipline by setting clear expectations for students and encouraging positive behaviour. Strategies for developing this culture include:

- clearly setting age-appropriate expectations with respect to student behaviour



- establishing specific teaching and learning programs that are inclusive and differentiated.
- communicating expectations with the wider school community/parent body
- acknowledging positive behaviours in a range of ways from informal verbal acknowledgement through to formal reports
- maintaining records with respect to student behaviour (through our Sentral portal)

Discipline Procedures

Disciplinary matters will be dealt with by individual teachers who will discuss the problem with the students/parents involved and how collaboratively we will take steps to resolve it. If the teacher is unable to resolve the matter, it will be referred to the Head of Faculty. Students who persistently break the school's expectations as outlined in the 'Student Code of Conduct' can expect that, in close consultation with their parents, the following consequences may be applied.

If a student is in breach of school or class rules/expectations, teachers may –

- Clearly explain the behaviour that is unsafe, disrespectful or disruptive and outline the required change in behaviour.
- Have informal/formal conversations with families regarding ongoing behaviour
- Ask the student to leave the class and report to the relevant Head of Faculty, the Principal, or the front office. (Remove the student from the learning environment for the safety of others in this case)
- Record the behaviour and consequences on Sentral.
- Ask parents to collect the student.

A matter referred to Heads of Faculty or the Principal may also result in –

- Phone call or email to the family
- Short exclusion from re-entering the learning environment.
- Referral to the Wellbeing Coordinator
- Before/after school service
- A formal meeting with family members, staff, and leadership.
- Implementation of an Individual Behaviour Management Plan.
- Referral to the Principal



*A Head of Faculty or Principal will deal with Serious breaches of discipline, eg violence and persistent disobedience in the first instance.

The principal will be the final point of referral for repeated breaches of discipline.

A matter referred to the Principal may also lead to

- Suspension from class
- Termination of enrolment (in consultation with the School Leadership Team and the Chair of the Governance Committee).

Individual Behaviour Management Plan

Individual Behaviour Management plans may be made in certain circumstances. Behaviour Management Plans will be negotiated between school staff, students, and parents/guardians, and will consider the student's:

- age
- developmental needs and/or additional needs
- behavioural context
- needs of the individual, their class, and the school
- actions to be undertaken by all parties.



Student Code of Conduct

The following simple principles guide our student code of conduct.

All students are encouraged to:

- show kindness and respect for others.
- allow fellow students to learn and teachers to teach.
- care for the environment in which we live and work.

Behaviours to be fostered and acknowledged at Mansfield Steiner School include:

- Each student is expected to follow reasonable instructions given by the teacher in a reasonable manner. Rude gestures, talking back, or disobedience are the basis for disciplining of student.
- Each student is expected to follow instructions that the teacher is giving the group throughout the program and session to the best of their abilities.
- Each student is expected to use classroom furniture and equipment with safety and respect.
- Each student is to be co-operative throughout each lesson and participate to the best of their ability without disrupting or distracting their fellow students.

Each student is required to demonstrate self-regulation, particularly in the following areas:

- Verbal or physical aggression towards a teacher or fellow student.
- Inappropriate/offensive language.
- Interfering with other students' equipment or intruding on their personal work/learning space.
- Each student is expected to be in their designated learning space for all lessons and cannot leave that space without the explicit permission of the teacher.
- Each student is expected to respect and acknowledge the rights and feelings of others so that all students have an equal opportunity to learn and achieve progress and success.

School rules are based on respect for people and property and include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Sun hats must be worn in first and fourth terms. Broad Brimmed (Primary) Caps (Secondary)
- Shoes to be always worn when outside.



- Students are not permitted in classrooms or foyers unless under the direct supervision of staff.
- Children to play within agreed Class boundaries.
- No skateboards, rollerblades, or scooters during school times.
- Mobile phones are to be used in line with the Student Use of Mobile Phones Policy
- Inside classrooms - no running, ball games, or yelling.
- No chewing gum.

Policy Revised – Glenn Hood June 2023. Sent to GC for review June 2023.

The next review date post-GC approval is June 2025.