

CODE OF CONDUCT - STUDENTS

Updated: 2023
Review: 2027

Rationale

Our Lady of Mercy College is committed to ensuring a respectful learning environment that is safe, positive and supportive for all students at the College.

Our Code of Conduct – Students is a set of guidelines for behaviour which seeks to establish a harmonious environment which is conducive to the pursuit of excellence in all fields and enables students to flourish. As would be expected in a College whose motto is 'Embracing Life, Nurturing Faith and Inspiring Learning', respect for members of the community is a prominent feature of our guiding principles.

All members of Our Lady of Mercy College's community will show their pride in belonging to this unique community by the generous manner in which they observe this Code, and by the manner in which they wear the uniform, the public sign of their membership of the community.

Code of Conduct – Students

Students are expected to 'work in partnership' with peers and staff to:

- Be respectful of themselves
- Be respectful of others
- Be respectful of the College and its Catholic ethos
- Demonstrate the Mercy values of 'compassion, courage, hospitality, respect, justice and service'
- Demonstrate good standing to be able to represent the College

Students engage in College activities in a variety of contexts and environments. The Code of Conduct – Students applies in all circumstances. The following provides information about some of these contexts.

Behaviour in the classroom

Students at Our Lady of Mercy College will:

- allow the teacher to teach, and fellow students to learn without interruption
- be on time and prepared for every class (pencil case with correct equipment, books and charged device)
- enter class appropriately
- greet peers and teachers; students are to use the teacher's title and name (e.g. Good morning Mr Smith)
- take their hats off upon entering classrooms
- open devices when instructed to do so by their teacher
- be permitted to leave class with the permission of their teacher
- express ideas appropriately, and respect the ideas of others
- take pride in their work and presentation





- refrain from consuming food in class or chewing gum is not permitted
- treat the classroom environment with respect, by keeping the space clean and tidy
- show respect for all College property
- wait to be dismissed by their teacher and then leave in an orderly manner
- be expected to access set work via SEQTA/OneNote if unable to attend class

Behaviour during breaks in the school day

Students at Our Lady of Mercy College will:

- maintain classroom expectations as they move around the College
- use appropriate areas for activities (e.g., oval for running, courts for ball games etc.)
- avoid eating in locker areas, unless the 'Inclement Weather Procedure' is in place
- refrain from inappropriate body contact (e.g., rough play or physical contact of an intimate nature)
- be responsible for replacing items intentionally damaged
- be aware of the safety of others
- Always follow the direction of duty staff
- respect others and groups games
- only use devices when attending technology clubs
- respond to the bell quickly from break times and be punctual to classes
- be responsible for placing litter in the relevant bin

Relationships with others

Students at Our Lady of Mercy College will:

- treat others with compassion, refraining from bullying, harassment or denigration, verbal or physical or via social media
- always use appropriate language

Use of Lockers

Students at Our Lady of Mercy College will:

- only access their own locker
- keep their locker locked at all times with a College padlock
- leave school bags in lockers until the end of the day
- access the locker areas during the first five minutes of break times to collect their food/drink
- collect Items for Periods 1 and 2 before Pastoral Care Group
- collect Items for Periods 3, 4 and 5 at the end of recess
- collect Items for Period 6 at the end of lunch
- Collect bags for home at the end of Period 6



Electronics use

Students at Our Lady of Mercy College will:

- use technology responsibly at all times
- place personal electronic devices in lockers between the hours of 8.25am and 3.00pm
- attend Student Services, if parent contact is required
- use earphones in class only when directed by the teacher as part of the education program

Late Arrival on College grounds

Students at Our Lady of Mercy College understand that:

- signing in at the College Administration is required

Leaving the College grounds

Students at Our Lady of Mercy College understand that:

- permission from a parent/guardian is required to leave the College grounds.
- signing out at the College Administration is required

Drugs, weapons and other dangerous devices

Students at Our Lady of Mercy College understand that:

- the presence of illicit or illegal drugs or alcohol on the College premises is absolutely prohibited, including vapes and e-cigarettes
- the taking of, being under the influence of or providing illicit or illegal drugs or alcohol either on the College premises or whilst engaged in any College activity is absolutely prohibited.
- substances (e.g. supplements) are not permitted on the College premises.
- the carrying or use of weapons or dangerous devices including flares, lasers and cigarette lighters is strictly forbidden
- creating a belief relating to weapons, dangerous devices or actions is considered a serious offence