



CBC ST JOHN'S, PARKLANDS	
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POLICY TITLE	CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS AND CUSTODIANS AT CBC ST JOHN'S, PARKLANDS
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CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS

1. PREAMBLE

- 1.1 To guide the conduct of the parents of students and the mutual relationship between the parents and the College

2. DOCUMENTS GUIDING THE POLICY

- 2.1 EXTRACT FROM THE PREAMBLE OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN SCHOOLS ACT - ACT NO. 84. 1996

"WHEREAS this country requires a new national system for schools which will redress past injustices in educational provision, provide an education of progressively high quality for all learners and in so doing lay a strong foundation for the development of all our people's talents and capabilities, advance the democratic transformation of society, combat racism and sexism and all other forms of unfair discrimination and intolerance, contribute to the eradication of poverty and the economic well-being of society, protect and advance our diverse cultures and languages, uphold the rights of all learners, parents and educators, and promote their acceptance of responsibility for the organization, governance and funding of schools in partnership with the state;"

2.2 THE CONSTITUTION OF SOUTH AFRICA: ACT 108 OF 1996: FOUNDING PROVISIONS

The Republic of South Africa is one, sovereign, democratic state founded on the following values: - Human dignity, the achievement of equality and the advancement of human rights and freedoms;

- Non-racialism and non-sexism;
- Supremacy of the constitution and the rule of law ...

2.3 BILL OF RIGHTS

- 2.3.1 This Bill of Rights is the cornerstone of democracy in South Africa. It enshrines the rights of all people in our country and affirms the democratic values of human dignity, equality and freedom.



- 2.3.2 A juristic person is entitled to the rights in the Bill of Rights to the extent required by the nature of that juristic person.
- 2.3.3 Equality: Everyone is equal before the law and has the right to equal protection and benefit from the law.
- 2.3.4 Human Dignity: Everyone has inherent dignity and the right to have their dignity respected and protected.
- 2.3.5 Freedom and Security of the person: Everyone has the right to freedom and security of the person.
- 2.3.6 Freedom of Religion, Belief and Opinion: Everyone has the right to freedom of conscience, religion, thought, belief and opinion.
- 2.3.7 Limitation of Rights: The rights in the Bill of Rights may be limited only in terms of law of general application to the extent that the limitation is reasonable and justifiable in an open and democratic society based on human dignity, equality and freedom, taking into account all relevant factors, including the nature of the right; the importance of the purpose of the limitation; the nature and extent of the limitation; the relation between the limitation and its purpose; and less restrictive means to achieve the purpose.

2.4 MISSION STATEMENT OF CBC ST JOHN'S

As an independent Catholic school, we aim to provide an enriched, holistic education based on Gospel values, where the spirituality of each person is nurtured in an environment where Faith, Family, Excellence and Diversity are celebrated. By recognizing each child's potential, we aspire to produce students who are meaningful contributors to a world requiring social advocacy, compassion, tolerance and innovative thinking.

3. TERMS OF LEGISLATION

The Code of Conduct for Parents at CBC ST JOHN'S, PARKLANDS has been drawn up in terms of the following legislation:

- The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa 1996, Act No. 108 and the Bill of Rights included in the constitution
- South African Schools Act, 1996 (Act No. 84 of 1996) as amended
- Guideline for the consideration of Governing Bodies in adopting a code of conduct for learners, in Government Gazette No 18900
- General manual for the suspension and expulsion of learners from public schools (excluding public schools for learners who were referred or transferred to such schools in terms of the childcare act, 1983 (act 74 of 1983), and/or the criminal procedure act, 1977 (act 51 of 1977)), in circular 0030/99 – Provincial Administration Western Cape – Education Department.

3. LEGAL AUTHORITY

The South African Schools Act, Act No. 84 of 1996, section 8(1) empowers a governing body of a school to maintain discipline in a school. The Code of Conduct must prescribe behaviour that respects the rights of learners and educators.

- 3.1 An educator at the school shall have the same rights as a parent to control and discipline a learner according to the Code of Conduct during the time the learner is in attendance at the school, in any classroom, at any school function or school excursion or other school-related activities.



3.2 The principal or an educator, upon reasonable suspicion (sufficient information), has the legal authority to search any learner or property in possession of the learner for a dangerous weapon, firearm, drugs, harmful dangerous substance, stolen property, or pornographic material brought onto the school property. During a search, human dignity shall be observed and learners shall be searched in private by persons of their gender, preferably in the presence of at least one other person. A record must be kept of the search proceedings and the outcome.

5. PREAMBLE TO THE CODE OF CONDUCT

5.1 The code of conduct is aimed at establishing a disciplined and purposeful environment, dedicated to the improvement and maintenance of the quality of the learning process at ST JOHN'S.

5.1.1 Nothing contained in the South African Schools Act exempts a learner from the obligation to comply with the code of conduct of the school attended by the learner. Parents are also bound by the code of conduct as far as their interaction with the College is concerned.

5.1.2 While the state must make education available and accessible, this must be complemented by the commitment and acceptance of responsibility by the other partners in education, namely the learners, educators and parents.

5.1.3 The code of conduct should promote a culture of reconciliation, teaching, learning and mutual respect, and the establishment of a culture of tolerance and peace in the school.

6. PARENTS' EXPECTATIONS:

Parents expect from the school:

6.1 Educators who are well qualified and competent to teach their subjects of instruction

6.2 A school that respects cultural diversities and which is non-discriminatory educators who are professional in their approach to their work and who set and maintain correct standards

6.3 The promotion of high moral standards and good ethics, with learners being taught in a disciplined environment that is conducive to learning that they will be treated fairly and as individuals

6.4 Support from approachable educators who communicate with parents on work and behaviour problems

7. PARENT OBLIGATIONS:

Parents should

7.1 support and encourage their children in their involvement in all spheres of school life

7.2 ensure that learners attend school regularly, that they are correctly dressed, properly equipped, and are punctual

7.3 support the school, the staff, the code of conduct and school rules, and ensure that their children do likewise

7.4 inform the school of any problem areas and communicate with individual educators where this is necessary or desirable

7.5 pay school fees on time

7.6 fetch their children on time after school functions, and attend official school functions such as PA meetings