

“In Unity We are One in the Lord”



**A code of Conduct for
Parents, Guardians, Caregivers,
Volunteers, and Visitors of
St. Peter’s Catholic School**

This **Code of Conduct** applies to all stakeholders; parents, guardians, caregivers, volunteers, and visitors who interact with our school. It also applies to school sponsored activities, meetings, and/or functions within and outside of school hours. As parents, guardians, caregivers, volunteers, and visitors there is an expectation of support for the Vision and Mission of Catholic Education at St. Peter’s School.

Code of Conduct for St. Peter's

The school is a multifaceted organization comprising a diversity of populations that have distinctive relationships to one another. Relationships are at the very core of our Catholic Christian belief in our Triune (three persons in one) God. The Holy Trinity is God in relationship! This beautiful doctrine inspires all of us in Catholic Schools, to attempt to be a living Christian community in relationship with God and others. It is essential in such a community that all members recognize and respect not only their own rights and responsibilities but also the rights and responsibilities of other members of the community and those of the school itself.

The responsibility for promoting and upholding these core values of the school community must fall on all those with the greatest capacity to reason and control their actions. Therefore, it is the expectation of the school that all parents/guardians/caregivers/volunteers and visitors model acceptable behavior always within the school setting, at school sponsored activities or when the school can be involved in any social or professional media. "It is incumbent upon parents to cooperate closely with the school teachers to whom they entrust their children to be educated; and in fulfilling their duty, teachers are to collaborate closely with parents who are to be willingly heard and for whom associations or meetings are to be inaugurated and held in great esteem" (*The Code of Canon Law*, Canon 796, Para. 2).

As a parent, celebrate that you play a foundational role in the development of your child's sense of justice, equity, and worth of all members of the school community. You are one of the most instrumental role models within your child's life.

This Code is designed to guide all stakeholders in their dealings with staff, other parents, students, and the wider school community. All staff and students at our Catholic school are guided by similar codes. The Code is written in line with the school's values and expectations. The Code stands beside but does not exclude or replace the rights and obligations of individuals under common law.

The Gospel and Our Values

We are called to emulate Jesus' call to love God and to love each other. We look to the values taught to us in scripture and the Christian belief to guide us, including:

Love (1 John 4:7-19); Promoting **Life in Abundance** (John 10:10); **Inclusion** (Luke 19: 1-10);

Reconciliation (Luke 15: 11-32); **Compassion** (Luke 10: 30-37); **Justice** (Matthew 25: 31-460);

Liberation (Luke 4: 16-21); **Community** (John 15); and **Hope** (Luke 24: 13-35).

In living out these Gospel values, we strive to develop the following

- An inclusive approach including a non-judgmental and welcoming attitude towards all people
- An ability to appreciate the situation of others
- A cooperative attitude in working with others
- Open, positive, and honest communication
- The ability to work civilly with other people
- Reverence for Creation
- Trusting relationships
- Responsible actions

We ask Parents, Guardians, Caregiver, Volunteers, and/or Visitors to:

- Support in words and actions the philosophy of Catholic Education
- Work in trust with the school for the common goal of achieving what is best for all
- Support your child/ren in all educational endeavors by giving praise and showing interest in school activities
- Help your child/ren to discover that it is more the process that is experienced, rather than the end-product, that makes it all worthwhile
- Model flexibility – encourage healthy problem solving
- Respect the decisions made by the administration, even if you disagree with them.
- Help your child/ren to understand that ‘giving of your very best’ is what matters rather than always comparing yourself against the capabilities or achievements of others
- Listen to your child/ren, but remember that a different version of an event may be interpreted by others
- Understand the importance of a healthy parent/teacher/child relationship and communicate any concerns to your school in a constructive and appropriate manner
- Validate that both parents and teachers work together for the benefit of the child/ren
- Observe the school’s policies, as outlined on the school webpage and/or the school’s handbook and endeavor to support them in the home
- Cooperate where your child’s behavior has overstepped accepted school standards, as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct, and follow specified protocol for communication with faculty/staff members
- Support the school in its efforts to maintain a positive teaching and learning environment
- Castoff gossip and hearsay by communicating with the school and always model good manners for your child/ren
- Sustain a positive and co-operative attitude and interact positively with other parents and members of the school community
- Encourage community building with other parents in your year, level, and across the school
- Value the school community and its reputation especially when engaging with social media
- Do not smoke or use offensive language on school premises

Responsibilities of a Parent, Guardian, Caregiver, Volunteer, and Visitor:

- Value and advocate for your school and its reputation. Be mindful of the hurt and damage social media may cause to faculty/staff members, other parents, and students
- Under no circumstances approach another child while in the care of the school to address, discuss or reprimand them because of actions towards your own child/ren
- Respect the rights of faculty/staff members and other individuals
- Respect the reputation of teachers and be mindful of communications especially social media; e.g., tone of emails
- Follow the correct procedures to resolve a grievance or conflict, as outlined in the school's handbook
- Respect teachers' preparation time before, during, and after school. Make an appointment for lengthy discussions at a mutually convenient time. If you wish to speak to a teacher, please do not expect a meeting unless pre-arranged
- To protect our children do not discuss any grievances or perceived failings in front of them regarding the school
- On excursions, helping in class or on campus, parents must follow the instructions and directions of the teacher. A parent may remind students of the rules but at no time issue consequences and should refer the student to the teacher if the behavior continues
- As valued members of the school community attend and participate appropriately in school liturgies or special events including athletics, concerts, academic and cultural events



Code of Conduct

Deliberate breaches and inability to respect St. Peter's Code of Conduct for Parents, Guardians, Caregivers, Volunteers, and Visitors, or exasperating complaints, may result in exclusion of a parent, guardian, caregiver, volunteer, and/or visitor from a school, and/or possible termination of enrollment of their child/ren.

Parents, Guardians, and/or Caregivers, when signing off on accepting the school's policies in the Enrollment Application Form, and by the act of accepting enrollment at St. Peter's Catholic School, are accepting of this Code of Conduct in its entirety.

Print Family Name: _____

Print Student(s) Last Name *(if different from family name)*: _____

The Code of Conduct document has been shared with all family members

Signature _____

Date _____

**Please sign and return this page to Class Assignment Day.
Keep the previous pages for your reference.**