

Highgate School Parent and Community Partnership



Parent roles in promoting the safety and wellbeing of the Highgate Community

At **Highgate School** we aim to inspire a love of learning in students and equip them to be independent, responsible and positive contributors to society.

Our Vision is for Highgate to be a school that partners with parents and staff to provide all students with an exceptional education and the knowledge, skills and strategies to be creative and confident builders of their future.

Our Values are: **Respect, Kindness, Honesty & Integrity**

Being part of the school community comes with responsibilities for parents. All parents* are responsible for promoting the safety and wellbeing of all children, staff and other parents by:-

- Upholding the school values of Respect, Honesty and Integrity at all times;
- Treating everyone with respect. This includes staff, volunteers, students, children, young people and parents;
- Remembering to be a positive role model to children and young people in all your conduct with them;
- Setting clear boundaries about appropriate behaviour between yourself and the children and young people – boundaries help everyone to carry out their roles well;
- Listening and responding appropriately to the views and concerns of children and young people;
- Encouraging children and young people to 'have a say' on issues that are important to them;
- Encouraging children to approach staff to resolve issues or concerns;
- Not discriminating against any person because of age, gender, cultural background, religion, disability, vulnerability or sexuality;
- Being mindful of others' privacy and wellbeing when using social media and internet platforms;
- Ensuring that any images or videos they take at school events of students that are not their own children are not be published or shared without the permission of the students' parents including online or in hard copy

Parent roles in communication between home and school

Open, respectful and honest conversation between parents and school staff is vital to ensure the safety and wellbeing of students. Parents are responsible for this by:-

- Accessing and reading all communication platforms relevant to their child including Skoolbag, Newsletters, reports etc.

Respect, Kindness, Honesty and Integrity

**For the purpose of this policy, the term parent refers to parents, caregivers and visitors to the school.*

- Being mindful of teacher's time and allowing them 48 hours to read and respond to electronic communication.
- Understanding that staff may not read or respond to electronic communication on days they do not work, including weekends or after 6pm.
- Working with staff (teachers and leaders) to find an appropriate time to discuss your child's learning and wellbeing, or any concerns.
- Sharing important information with the school that may affect your child's wellbeing or learning.
- Notifying the front office of student absences (not the teacher) through Skoolbag, email or telephone.

Examples of Highgate School Community Partnership behaviours	Examples of behaviours that DO NOT fit with our community partnership
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Valuing and trusting the educational expertise and status of staff and responding positively to staff communications. ✓ Dealing with issues constructively with the person directly before using the Grievance Policy. ✓ Taking interest in your child's learning by supporting them with their learning. ✓ Showing empathy and valuing diversity of opinion and listening to others and their views. ✓ Keeping to timelines and RSVP's and adhering to time constraints. ✓ Making efforts to participate and communicate with positive mindset; supporting community events. ✓ Supporting the school uniform code. ✓ Speaking positively to your child about the school and reinforcing manners, school pride and about valuing the school environment. ✓ Encouraging children to be responsible and independent at school. ✓ Driving safely near the school and following signed parking restrictions when children are present, including not entering the staff carpark, or blocking driveways. ✓ Being open to new ideas and relationships and being friendly and courteous to all members of our school community. ✓ Maintaining non-aggressive behaviour by demonstrating respectful behavior and language. ✓ Maintaining a respectful tone in all written and verbal communication. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Approaching other people's children to discuss an issue. ✗ Not following communication protocols. ✗ Gossiping or discussing private school matters in the community. ✗ Being rude to adults who work in our school by being aggressive, making demands, sarcastic comments and 'put downs', being intimidating or violent. ✗ Not being proactive in the education of your child. ✗ Making 'put down comments' and or offensive comments to officials and the opposition at school sports events. ✗ Being closed to the perspective of others. ✗ Trying to discuss your child with the teacher while they are responsible for students. ✗ Blaming others. ✗ Not considering teacher feedback on your child's learning or behaviour. ✗ Not considering other sides or perspectives when dealing with issues.

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