

COWANDILLA

Primary School

Behaviour Code



Government of South Australia

Department for Education and
Child Development

The purpose of the Behaviour Code at Cowandilla Primary School is to:

- Create a safe and secure environment for everyone
- Ensure that no one interferes with the rights of others to learn and teach

Cowandilla's values are:

- Respect
- Responsibility

Language choice is very important in behaviour, therefore we teach children how to use language respectfully.

Mindset and Restorative Practice underpin our school values of Respect and Responsibility. Learners with a growth mindset believe they can learn just about anything and, when they make a mistake, we help them to view it as a learning opportunity.

The aspects of fair process, teaching students to accept responsibility, repairing relationships and reducing hurt and harm are used in classroom management and conflict resolution.

Conversations are based on the following:

1. What happened?
 2. I chose to break the rules because...
 3. To change my behaviour I will...
 4. What have I learned by my mistake?
 5. What better behaviour choice can I make in the future?
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Behaviour Code

Practices which recognise and reinforce student achievement:

- Verbal and non-verbal recognition in which the appropriate positive behaviour is acknowledged
- Annual student awards, such as Student of the Year, Community and Service Award, Sports Person of the Year
- Use of merit certificates and awards for effort and achievement
- Regular communication with parents by letter, telephone and through personal contact
- Participation in special school activities and programs Student Leadership / Cultural Mentors
- Media acknowledgement of student and school achievement
- Participation in local community and state wide special events

Strategies to encourage responsible behaviours:

- We use the social skills programs 'Play is the Way', 'What's the Buzz', 'The Virtues Project', and 'Stop, Think, Do' to support our Behaviour Code.
 - Other strategies used to encourage responsible behaviour include:
 - The class behaviour management process, including class time out, buddy class and office time out
 - Thinking room
 - Restricted play
 - Replacing/restoring damaged property Rehearsing appropriate behaviours
 - Serious or on-going irresponsible behaviour will lead to the implementation of DECD Suspension and Exclusion Policy.
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Student Responsibilities

Our Code of Behaviour focuses on the following expectations:

1. Learning

- Be organised and prepared to learn
- Actively participate in all learning programs and complete set work
- Have a go and be persistent
- Try your best
- Follow class expectations and the school's Behaviour Code

2. Respect for self and others

- Keep our school free of aggression, harassment, violence and bullying
- Communicate in a respectful way, including positive body language
- Take responsibility for own behaviour and as a bystander
- Understand the impact of behaviour on other people
- Aim to restore relationships by understanding and forgiving
- Be truthful, sensitive and show empathy towards others
- Move in a safe and appropriate way around the school

3. Respect for property

- Look after your own and school property
- Leave the belongings of others alone

4. Respect for environment

- Keep our environment free of litter, graffiti and vandalism
- Look after trees and gardens
- Conserve resources (e.g. power, water and paper)

5. Dress code

- Comply with the uniform policy
 - Wear a hat outside in terms 1 and 4
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Behaviour Code

Staff Responsibilities

- Build positive relationships with students and families
- Respond in inclusive ways to cultural differences
- Model behaviours which reflect our school values
- Be firm, fair and consistent
- Provide opportunities for student negotiation, decision making and leadership
- Inform parents and relevant staff about students' learning and behaviour
- Maintain confidentiality
- Provide experiences to develop social skills as an integral part of the curriculum
- Teach students how language and meaning change with different people in different situations

Leadership Responsibilities

- Provide clear process and structures to manage students who are in time out from the yard and class
 - Ensure that staff, students and caregivers are familiar with the Behaviour Code
 - Ensure clear communication with all members of the school community
 - Ensure all staff receive appropriate training and development to compliment the Behaviour Code
 - Regularly review and monitor the Behaviour Code in line with the DECD School Discipline Policy and the school community values.
 - Support staff in developing classroom governance
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Parent Responsibilities

- Ensure your child attends regularly and arrives on time
 - Promptly inform the school of every absence
 - Be familiar with and support the Behaviour Code
 - Develop and maintain contact with the school in relation to your child's learning and behaviour
 - Make appointments to speak to school staff
 - Ensure that interactions with school staff are respectful
 - Provide the school with up to date contact details
 - Notify school staff of behaviour incidents observed at school, rather than involving yourself.
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Grievance Procedures

Cowandilla Primary School supports the right of any member of the school community who believes our Behaviour Code is not being supported or enforced appropriately to have their grievances addressed.

It is important that these grievances are kept confidential.

Students

- Communicate with a teacher to express what they believe to be unfair
- If the matter cannot be resolved, students can consult the Counsellor, Assistant Principal or Principal

Families

- Arrange a time to communicate with the teacher
- Explain to the teacher what you believe to be unfair
- If the matter is not resolved, inform the teacher that you will consult the Counsellor, Assistant Principal or Principal
- Discuss your concerns with the Counsellor, Assistant Principal or Principal
- If the matter is still not resolved please contact the Parent Feedback, Complaints, and Compliments Unit on 1800 677 435

Staff

- Approach the person concerned and air your grievance
 - If no satisfactory conclusion is reached speak to your line manager and ask for support in addressing the grievance
 - If the matter is not resolved speak to the Grievance Officer
 - If you are still dissatisfied speak to the Counsellor, Assistant Principal or Principal
 - If the problem has still not been resolved approach the Education Director
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