



THE KING DAVID SCHOOL

## PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

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### INTRODUCTION

The King David School is an institution where respect and harmony are prioritised. This code applies to parents, guardians, step-parents, grandparents, extended family, carers, and any others whilst involved in activities or communication related to The King David School. For convenience, the term “parents” will be used throughout this policy.

This policy details behavioural expectations for parents to ensure that they act in a manner that is harmonious and supportive.

### VALUES

The King David School emphasises the principles of good communication.

Parents are required to be courteous and respectful in written, electronic and spoken language in all communications with students, staff, other parents and members of the school community. Aggressive, threatening or condescending language, whether it is spoken, written or communicated electronically, is unacceptable.

We value our diverse community and respect the rights, beliefs and practices of individuals and their families.

Parents will act in the interests of students, their families, the community and our staff. They should not engage in gossip and should ensure that anything that is said is factually accurate.

Adults act as role models for children, and it is important that the students observe their parents acting in a respectful manner at all times.

### WHEN VISITING THE SCHOOL

When visiting the School, parents will comply with any security or sign-in procedures. Parents should not go directly to the classroom, but rather wait at reception.

When attending any kind of School event, assembly, sporting event, public meeting or online forum, parents should listen respectfully and refrain from interrupting or distracting from activities that may be taking place.

### WHEN COMMUNICATING WITH OTHER CHILDREN

A parent may not discipline a child who is not theirs, nor speak to a child who is not theirs about their behaviour. This is the role of teaching staff. This is because staff are trained to manage pastoral situations, staff may have a wider picture of a situation, and for a child to be approached by an adult, especially one they do not know, can be distressing. Parents should therefore raise any behavioural or peer group issues with a member of the teaching staff, and it is the teacher’s responsibility to deal with any issues.

When visiting a classroom, the teacher is the authority in the room. Parents should knock and wait at the door. Teachers value parental involvement, although they may ask a parent to leave a learning experience at their discretion.

### WHEN COMMUNICATING WITH SCHOOL STAFF

All members of the community are entitled to a calm and respectful working and educational environment. All interactions should be courteous and appropriate.

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Teachers must be afforded the time to investigate an issue and gather information prior to discussion with parents.

As a Jewish school, parents are encouraged not to communicate with staff (nor should there be an expectation of response) on Shabbat (Friday evening until Saturday evening) and on Jewish festivals. In addition, the School complies with the Right to Disconnect legislation, which supports staff wellbeing by setting clear and reasonable boundaries around work-related communication outside of working hours. Parents are asked to communicate with staff during normal school hours wherever possible, noting that responses outside these times are not expected unless in exceptional circumstances.

### WHEN RAISING ISSUES OR CONCERNS

Parents have the right to raise issues and concerns relating to their children. The concern should be raised with the correct person or their line manager. Usually, this is the class teacher, the Year Level Coordinator, or the Head of School. When raising an issue or raising a concern, parents should refer to the Parent Concerns Guidelines.

### CONSEQUENCES OF A BREACH OF THE PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Any parent, member of staff or student may notify the School of a breach of the Parent Code of Conduct. This should be presented in writing, with the concerns noted.

The Principal or their delegate will investigate the complaint (the investigation will be conducted by the Council President if the complaint is about the Principal in his or her role as Parent), and if satisfied that a breach has occurred, actions from the following non-exhaustive list may take place:

- Phone or email the parent to agree a way forward;
- Require a meeting with the parent to discuss the concerns and agree on a way forward;
- Provide a written warning that a breach of the Code of Conduct has occurred and that a further breach will not be tolerated;
- Require an apology;
- Issue a written notification or 'trespass warning' requiring the parent not to enter School property for a fixed period of time or direct the parent not to undertake other actions deemed inappropriate relating to the School;
- Contact the appropriate authority to address the issue;
- Cancel or suspend the enrolment of a child.

### INDIVIDUAL AND LEGAL RIGHTS

Nothing in this policy precludes any person or organisation – parent, staff member or School – from exercising their rights in respect of obtaining restraining and intervention orders, reporting assault, bringing action for defamation, exercising rights under vilification or discrimination laws or in any other way.



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### RELATED POLICIES AND/OR LEGISLATION

- Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy
- Positive Behaviours Policy
- Respectful Workplace Policy
- Fairwork Legislation Amendment (Closing Loopholes No. 2) Act 2024 (Right to Disconnect)