

## Code of Conduct Policy

<b>Purpose</b>	<p>The aim of this policy is to outline the standards of behaviour expected of all employees of The River School, including the Early Childhood Centre.</p> <p>This Code of Conduct does not attempt to provide a detailed and exhaustive list of what to do in every situation. Instead, it sets out general expectations of the standards of behaviour required. The Code of Conduct places an obligation on all employees to take responsibility for their own conduct and to work with colleagues cooperatively to achieve a consultative and collaborative workplace where people are happy and proud to work.</p>	
<b>Scope</b>	<p>This Code of Conduct applies to all employees of The River School whether employed on a permanent, temporary or casual basis. Furthermore, this policy applies to all contractors, consultants, parents and volunteers working within the School and at School activities outside school hours and/or off school grounds. It includes all staff of The River School and Early Childhood Centre.</p>	
<b>Responsibility</b>	School Principal	
<b>References</b>	<p>Complaints Handling Policy Whistle-blower Policy Child Protection Policy Risk Assessment Framework</p>	
<b>Status</b>	Approved AME Ltd Board	<b>Supersedes</b> Code of Conduct Policy 2024
<b>Last Review Date</b>	March 2025	<b>Next Review Date</b> February 2026
<b>Review Cycle</b>	Annually	<b>Version ID</b> COC2025
<b>Authorisation</b>	Board Chair	<b>Date of Authorisation</b> 19 <sup>th</sup> March 2025
<b>Policy Owner</b>	AME Ltd Board	

# 1. RESPONSIBILITIES

**By accepting employment with The River School, you must be aware of and comply with this Code.**

Therefore, you must:

- (a) Conduct yourself, both personally and professionally in a manner that upholds the ethos and reputation of the School;
- (b) Comply with the School's policies and procedures;
- (c) Act ethically and responsibly; and
- (d) Be accountable for your actions and decisions.

## 1.1. Contractors and Volunteers

Contractors, consultants and volunteers including practicum students, working at the School must be aware of this Code and conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the conduct described in it. Conduct that is not consistent with the conduct set out in this Code may result in the engagement of a contractor, consultant or volunteer being terminated.

External consultants, contractors or volunteers, must be made aware of the School's expectations of conduct during the period of their engagement. The School will keep a register of all blue cardholders and notify individuals before renewal is due.

**People who need a blue card include:** *(Source: QLD Government 2020)*

- a person doing work with children at a school, including school excursions and school camps
- a teacher aide
- a person doing other work with children at a school, such as a cleaner (including employees of the school and of other companies)
- a student doing a practical placement in a school and/or early childcare centre
- a tradesperson whose usual work is performed while children are present (including entering the education and care service premises to consult with staff before doing any work)

**People who do not need a blue card include:**

- A parent who is volunteering at their child's school, unless they are a restricted person or are volunteering at a school camp in which case, they will need to complete a Restricted Person's Declaration Form (available from school office).
- A volunteer who is under 18 and is not a restricted person.
- An infrequent or one-off worker, or a person doing work outside the operating hours at the education premises (e.g. a tradesperson who only does work at night or on the weekend and does not enter the premises while children are present)
- A teacher registered with Queensland College of Teachers (QCT).

## 1.2. General

This Code is not intended to be contractual in nature and does not impose any contractual obligations on the School. The School reserves the right at its sole discretion to vary or cancel this Code at any time.

Nothing in this Code should be taken to limit the circumstances in respect of which the School may take disciplinary action in respect of an employee.

## 2. EXPECTATIONS OF SCHOOL EMPLOYEES (APPLIES TO VOLUNTEERS, CONTRACTORS & PRACTICUM STUDENTS)

Employees should be aware of the School's policies and procedures, as they apply to the areas of contracted work. Policies are available in hard copy from the school office and on the school website which is updated yearly. All staff receive professional development on School policies at the start of each school year.

If uncertain about the scope or content of applicable policies that must be complied with, seek clarification from the Principal.

Be familiar with the legislation under which they are employed as this may specify requirements with which they need to comply.

### 2.1. As a School employee, you are expected to:

- (a) Perform all duties to the best of your ability and be accountable for your performance;
- (b) Follow reasonable instructions given by the Principal or their delegate.
- (c) Comply with lawful directions.
- (d) Carry out all duties in a professional, competent and conscientious manner, while seeking suitable opportunities to improve knowledge and skills, including participation in relevant professional development.
- (e) Act honestly and in good faith in fulfilling all duties.
- (f) Be courteous and responsive in dealing with colleagues, students, parents, and members of the public.
- (g) Work collaboratively with colleagues; and
- (h) Ensure that conduct, whether during or outside working hours, is consistent with the ethos of the School and does not damage the reputation of the School.

## 3. BREACHING THE CODE OF CONDUCT

### 3.1. As a School employee, you hold a position of trust and are accountable for your actions.

- 3.1.1. The consequences of inappropriate behaviour and breaches of this Code will depend on the nature of the breach.
- 3.1.2. Employees should report possible breaches by colleagues to the Principal. If the possible breach is by the Principal, then it should be reported to the School Board.
- 3.1.3. Factors the School may consider when deciding what action to take may include:
  - (a) The seriousness of the breach;
  - (b) The likelihood of the breach occurring again;
  - (c) Whether the employee has committed the breach more than once;
  - (d) The risk the breach poses to employees, students or any others; and
  - (e) Whether the breach would be serious enough to warrant formal disciplinary action.
- 3.1.4. Actions that may be taken by the School in respect of a breach of the Code include management or remedial action, training or disciplinary action ranging from a warning to termination of employment. The School will reserve the right to determine in its entirety the response to any breach of this Code.

## 4. REQUIRED REPORTING

### 4.1. Employees are required to report certain information to the School.

- 4.1.1 All employees are required to inform the Principal if they are charged with or convicted of a serious offence (those punishable by 12 months or more in jail). You must also inform the Principal if you become the subject of an Apprehended Violence Order.
- 4.1.2 If, through your employment with the School, you become aware of a serious crime committed by another person, you are required to report it to the Principal, who may be required to inform the police.
- 4.1.3 As a School employee, you must report to the Principal:
- Any concerns that you may have about the safety, welfare and wellbeing of a child or young person.
  - Any concerns you may have about the inappropriate actions of any other employee, contractor or volunteer that involves children or young people.
  - Any concerns you may have about any other employee, contractor or volunteer engaging in 'reportable conduct' or any allegation of 'reportable conduct' that has been made to you; and
  - If you become aware that an employee, contractor or volunteer has been charged with or convicted of an offence (including a finding of guilt without the court proceeding to a conviction) involving 'reportable conduct'; and
  - If you become the subject of allegations of 'reportable conduct' whether or not they relate to your employment in the School.

You should refer to the School's *Child Protection Policy* for further information about these obligations.

- 4.2 Please note that teachers and some other employees have mandatory reporting obligations where they have reasonable grounds to suspect a child under the age of 18 years is at risk of significant harm and have current concerns about the safety, welfare and wellbeing of the child. You should refer to the School's *Child Protection Policy* for further information about these obligations.

## 5. RESPECT FOR PEOPLE

**The School expects employees to treat each other with respect and courtesy. Daily interaction with others reflects on the School's reputation. Therefore, all employees are expected to be approachable, courteous and prompt in dealing with other people, including students, parents, other employees, volunteers and members of the community.**

- 5.1 Employees who work with students have a special responsibility in presenting themselves as appropriate role models for those students. Modelling effective leadership and respect in all interactions with students can have a profoundly positive influence on a student's personal and social development.
- 5.2 Similarly, it is important for you to treat your colleagues, other employees, contractors, volunteers, students and parents with respect. Rude or insulting behaviour, including verbal and non-verbal aggression, abusive, threatening, intimidating or derogatory language and physical abuse or intimidation towards other employees, contractors, students and parents is unacceptable. You must not use information and communication technologies, such as email, mobile phones, text or instant messaging, blogs, social media sites and other websites to engage in this type of behaviour.
- 5.3 You must not discriminate against, or harass for any unlawful reason, or bully for any reason any employee, contractor, student, parent or volunteer. Your obligations in this regard, including the list of unlawful reasons, are set out in the School's *Whistle-blower Policy*. Unlawful harassment or discrimination may constitute an offence under state or federal discrimination legislation. Bullying may be a breach of your obligations under work health and safety legislation or your duty of care at common law.

- 5.4 Staff should ensure they are aware of the School's *Whistle-blower, Discrimination, Bullying and Complaints Handling* Policies. If you believe you are being unlawfully harassed or discriminated against or bullied:
- (a) Where you feel comfortable ask the person to stop or make it clear that you find the behaviour offensive or unwelcome. It may be useful to speak with the Principal to seek guidance on how to do this; and/or
  - (b) Raise the issue as a grievance in accordance with the School's Complaints Handling Policy as soon as possible after the incident(s) have occurred.
- 5.5 The School takes reports of unlawful discrimination and harassment or bullying seriously and will consider action it considers appropriate if such conduct is found to have occurred including disciplining or dismissing offenders. Many incidents can be addressed effectively if reported early.
- 5.6 If you lie about or exaggerate a complaint, the School will view this as a very serious matter, and you may be disciplined or dismissed.

## 6. DUTY OF CARE AND WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY

**As a School employee, you have a duty of care to students in your charge to take all reasonable steps to protect students from risks of harm that can be reasonably predicted.**

The duty encompasses a wide range of matters, including (but not limited to):

- The provision of adequate supervision;
- Ensuring grounds, premises and equipment are safe for students' use;
- Implementing strategies to prevent bullying from occurring in School;
- Being aware of and prepared to implement any School, Government directives or legislation in reference to bullying including cyber bullying (see Bullying Prevention Policy);
- Providing medical assistance (if competent to do so), or seeking assistance from a medically trained person to aid a student who is injured or becomes sick at School, and
- Be familiar with, and apply the School's *Risk Assessment Framework*.

### 6.1 Duty of care

- 6.1.1. As a School employee, you have a duty of care to students in your charge. That duty is to take all reasonable steps to protect students from risks of harm that can be reasonably predicted. For example, risks from known hazards and from foreseeable risk situations against which preventative measures can be taken. The standard of care that is required, for example; the degree of supervision needs to be commensurate with the students' maturity and ability.
- 6.1.2. Duty of care to students applies during all activities, functions and camps conducted or arranged by the School. The risks associated with any activity need to be assessed and managed before the activity is undertaken.

### 6.2 Work health and safety

- 6.2.1. You have a responsibility under work health and safety legislation to take care of your own health and safety at work. It is also your responsibility to ensure that your activities do not place at risk the health and safety of co-workers, students or other persons that you may come into contact with at work.
- 6.2.2. Considerations of safety relate to both physical and psychological wellbeing of individuals.
- 6.2.3. You should ensure that you are familiar with the School's *Work Health & Safety* policy.

## 6.3 Supervision of students

- 6.3.1. You should take all reasonable steps to ensure that no student is exposed to any unnecessary risk of injury;
- 6.3.2. You should be familiar with and comply with the School's *Disaster & Emergency* procedures including evacuation and lock-down;
- 6.3.3. Students should not be left unsupervised either within or outside of class. You should be punctual to class and supervision duties;
- 6.3.4. You should remain with students at after School activities and activities off School grounds until all students have been collected. In the event that a student is not collected you should remain with the student until collected, or seek advice from the Principal. Refer to *Section 7 on due care* when supervising a single student.
- 6.3.5. Playground supervision is an integral part of the responsibility of staff. It must take precedence over other activities. It is unacceptable to be late. You should actively supervise your designated area, being vigilant and be constantly moving around. Identified 'hot spots' and students requiring additional supervision must be regularly monitored.
- 6.3.6. You should be alert to bullying or any other form of discriminatory behaviour, and report incidents to the Deputy or Principal. Additional detail about student bullying is set out in the School's *Bullying Prevention Policy*.
- 6.3.7. While on playground supervision, employees must wear a hat, carry their first aid kit and portable two-way radio transceiver. The supervising staff member should attend to ill or injured students. Should additional assistance be required you should contact the office immediately.
- 6.3.8. Employees should ensure that they understand and comply with the School's policy in regard to the storage and administration of prescribed medication to students. All staff should know which students have been identified with medical alerts including allergies and individual medical plans.

## 7. PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN EMPLOYEES AND STUDENTS

**As a School employee, you are expected to always behave in ways that promote the safety, welfare and wellbeing of children and young people. You must actively seek to prevent harm to children and young people, and to support those who have been harmed.**

Note: While not all employees are required to manage and supervise students, it is important for all School employees, parents and volunteers to understand and observe the School's Child Protection policies.

### 7.1. Supervision of students

- 7.1.1. You should avoid situations where you are alone in an enclosed space with a student. It is always best practice to have another adult present when supervising a single student. When this is not possible, and you are left with the responsibility of a single student you should ensure that this is in an open space in view of others. If this is not possible or practical it should be discussed with the Principal.
- 7.1.2. You should never drive a student in your car unless you have specific permission from the Principal to do so. In the event of an emergency you should exercise discretion but then report the matter to the Principal.
- 7.1.3. If you wish to conduct a private conversation with a student, you should consider the time and venue carefully to avoid placing yourselves in a vulnerable situation. It is preferable to leave the door open. You should not locate yourself between the student and the door.
- 7.1.4. When removing personal items, such as mobile phones or toys, ask students to hand them to you. Only take items directly from students in circumstances where concern exists for the safety of the student or others and your own safety is not jeopardised by this action.

## **7.2. Physical contact with students**

- 7.2.1. You must not impose physical punishment on a student in the course of your professional duties.
- 7.2.2. When physical contact with a student is a necessary part of the teaching/learning experience you must exercise caution to ensure that the contact is appropriate and acceptable. You should seek reassurance from the student by asking for a volunteer if necessary, to demonstrate a particular activity.
- 7.2.3. Attention to the toileting needs of young children should be done with caution. It may be appropriate to have the door open. For students with a disability the management of toileting needs should be included in the student's individual management plan.
- 7.2.4. When congratulating a student, a handshake, pat on the shoulder or brief hug are acceptable as long as the student is comfortable with this action. Kissing of students is not acceptable.
- 7.2.5. Assessing a student who is injured or ill may necessitate touching the student. Always advise the student of what you intend doing and seek their consent.
- 7.2.6. Sometimes in ensuring duty of care you may be required to restrain a student from harming him or herself or others using reasonable force. Any such strategy must be in keeping with the School's behaviour management practices or individual student management plans. You should report and document any such incidents.

## **7.3. Relationships with students**

- 7.3.1. You must not have a romantic or sexual relationship with a student. It is irrelevant whether the relationship is homosexual or heterosexual, consensual or non-consensual or condoned by parents or caregivers. You are reminded of:
  - (a) The law prohibiting sexual relations with a person under the age of consent (16 years); and
  - (b) The law prohibiting sexual relations between a teacher and their student under the age of 18 years.
- 7.3.2. You must not develop a relationship with any student that is, or that can be interpreted as having a personal rather than a professional interest in a student. An overly familiar relationship with any student that you are responsible for teaching, tutoring, advising, assessing, or for whom you provide pastoral or welfare support raises serious questions of conflict of interest, trust, confidence, dependency, and of equality of treatment. Such relationships may also have a negative impact on the teaching and learning environment for other students and colleagues and may carry a serious reputational risk for the School.
- 7.3.3. If you consider that a student is being overly familiar, seeking to establish a personal relationship with you or has developed a 'crush' on you, you should report your concerns to the Principal as soon as possible so that a plan can be developed to manage the situation effectively and sensitively.
- 7.3.4. At all times when speaking with students, care must be taken to use appropriate language. You must always treat students with respect and without favouritism. There is no place for sarcasm, derogatory remarks, inappropriate familiarity or offensive comments.
- 7.3.5. You may, as part of your pastoral care role, engage in discussion with students. This is entirely appropriate. However, you must be cautious about making personal comments about a student or asking questions that probe your own or a student's sexuality or relationships. You must not hold conversations with a student of an intimately personal nature where you disclose information about yourself.
- 7.3.6. You must not:
  - (a) Invite students to your home;
  - (b) Visit students at their home; or

- (c) Attend parties or socialise with students, unless you have the express permission of the Principal and their parents or caregiver.
- 7.3.7. You must not engage in tutoring or coaching students from the School without the express permission of the Principal and consent of parents or caregiver.
- 7.3.8. You must not invite students to join your personal electronic social networking site or accept students' invitations to join their social networking site (see Section 8 Appropriate use of electronic communication and social networking sites).
- 7.3.9. You must not give gifts to students. You should also carefully consider your position before accepting any gift from a student (see section 11).
- 7.3.10. Wherever practical, you should avoid teaching or being involved in educational decisions involving family members or close friends. Where it is not practical to avoid such situations completely, another member of staff should make any significant decisions relating to the student's assessments and have those endorsed by the Principal. If the student is a family member of the Principal, the Business Manager will be asked to make these decisions.
- 7.3.11. You should be aware of, and sensitive to, children with culturally diverse or indigenous backgrounds and cultural practices that may influence the interpretation of your behaviour.

## **7.4 Child protection**

- 7.4.1. All employees must be aware of and comply with the School's *Child Protection Policy*.
- 7.4.2. As set out in Section 4 you must report any concerns you may have about any other employee, contractor or volunteer engaging in 'reportable conduct' or any allegation of 'reportable conduct' that has been made to you, to the Principal. This includes self-disclosure if the allegation involves you.
- 7.4.3. Broadly, 'reportable conduct' includes:
  - (a) Any sexual offence, or sexual misconduct, committed against, with, or in the presence of, a child (including a child pornography offence); or
  - (b) Any assault, ill-treatment or neglect of a child; or
  - (c) Any behaviour that causes psychological harm to a child, whether or not the child consents.
- 7.4.4. Reportable conduct does not extend to:
  - (a) Conduct that is reasonable for the purposes of the discipline, management or care of children, having regard to the age, maturity, health or other characteristics of the children and to any relevant codes of conduct or professional standards, or
  - (b) The use of physical force that, in all the circumstances, is trivial or negligible, but only if the matter is to be investigated and the result of the investigation recorded under workplace employment procedures.
- 7.4.5. For further information about 'reportable conduct' see the School's *Child Protection Policy*.
- 7.4.6. The requirements outlined in this section identifying Supervision, Physical Contact and Relationships with Students set the professional boundaries in relation to your behaviour. They make clear what behaviour is unacceptable and could amount to reportable conduct.

## 8. APPROPRIATE USE OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS & SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES

The School provides electronic communication facilities for its students and employees for educational or administrative purposes. It monitors and views data stored or transmitted using the school's facilities. By its nature, electronic communication is a fast and informal way of communicating. However, once a document or image has been sent there is no way to recall it and it exists forever.

- 8.1. You must comply with the School's *Acceptable Use of Personal Use of Electronic Devices* Policy. This includes:
  - (a) Exercising good judgment when using electronic mail, following the principles of ethical behaviour;
  - (b) Using appropriate and professional language in electronic mail messages;
  - (c) Being aware that if an issue addressed in an email becomes the subject of a legal dispute, then those emails would be discoverable: that is, the court and all parties to the dispute would be entitled to see them;
  - (d) Not sending messages that are harassing, discriminatory, defamatory, threatening, abusive or obscene;
  - (e) Not inviting students into your personal social networking site or accept an invitation to theirs;
  - (f) Not using social networking sites to email or contact students;
  - (g) Remembering transmission, storage, promotion or display of offensive, defamatory, or harassing material is strictly forbidden; and
  - (h) Reporting any situations where you become aware of the inappropriate use of electronic communication and social networking sites.
- 8.2. You must never use the School's networks to view, upload, download or circulate any of the following materials:
  - (a) Sexually related or pornographic messages or material;
  - (b) Violent or hate-related messages or material;
  - (c) Racist or other offensive messages aimed at a particular group or individual;
  - (d) Malicious, libellous or slanderous messages or material; or
  - (e) Subversive or other messages or material related to illegal activities.

## 9. USE OF ALCOHOL, DRUGS, TOBACCO AND E-CIGARETTES

Work Health and Safety is of fundamental importance to the School. Maintaining a safe work environment requires everyone's continuous cooperation.

- 9.1. You are responsible for ensuring your capacity to perform your duties is not impaired by the use of alcohol or drugs and that the use of such substances does not put at risk you or any other person's health and safety.
- 9.2. As a School employee, you must:
  - (a) Not attend work under the influence of alcohol, illegal drugs or non-prescribed and/or restricted substances;
  - (b) Not consume alcohol, illegal drugs or non-prescribed and/or restricted substances while at work, including School related activities after School hours or off School grounds;
  - (c) Notify your supervisor if you are aware that your work performance or conduct could be adversely affected as a result of the effect of a prescribed drug;
  - (d) Take action to resolve any alcohol or other drug-related problems that you have;

- (e) Consult with the Principal if you are concerned about working with other employees who may be affected by drugs or alcohol.

### **9.3. Drugs**

As a School employee, you must not:

- (a) Have illegal drugs in your possession while at work. Any illegal drugs found on School property or in the possession of any person on School property may result in disciplinary action including the termination of your employment and referral to the Police
- (b) Give students or other employees illegal drugs or restricted substances, or encourage or condone their use; and
- (c) Supply or administer prescription or non-prescription drugs to students unless authorised to do so.

### **9.4. Alcohol**

As a School employee, you must not:

- (a) Take alcohol to School or consume it during School hours or at any School function at any time School students are present, including those events conducted outside School premises. A School function is any occasion organised by the School and/or in the School's name, including Graduation, farewells, celebrations, excursions, festivals, sporting events, fundraising events, School camps, P&F meetings and school meetings.
- (b) Purchase alcohol for, or give alcohol to, any School student (or to any other person under the age of 18 years); and
- (c) Encourage or condone the use of alcohol by students of any age during educational activities.

### **9.5. Tobacco and E-cigarettes**

As a School employee, you must not:

- (a) Smoke, vape or permit smoking / vaping in any School buildings, enclosed area or on School grounds. This includes all buildings, gardens, sports fields, the creek, cars and car parks.
- (b) Purchase tobacco, tobacco products or e-cigarettes for any School student, or give them tobacco, tobacco products or e-cigarettes.

## **10. IDENTIFYING AND MANAGING CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

**Private interests can, or have the potential to, influence a person's capacity to perform their duties and in turn compromise their integrity and that of the School.**

10.1. As a School employee, you must not act in conflict with the School's best interests. A conflict of interests can involve:

- (a) Pecuniary interests i.e. financial gain or loss or other material benefits,
- (b) Non-pecuniary interests i.e. favours, personal relationships and associations.

It may not only be about your own interests. It may include:

- (a) The interests of members of your immediate family or relatives (where these interests are known)
- (b) The interests of your own business partners or associates, or those of your workplace; or
- (c) The interests of your friends.

10.2. When faced with a situation in which conflict of interests may be present, you should report any potential or real conflict to your supervisor or the Principal.

10.3. You should also report situations where a superior or colleague who has an identified conflict is, or may be perceived as, unduly influencing your decision.

## 11. DECLARING GIFTS, BENEFITS AND BRIBES

As an employee, you may be offered a gift or benefit as an act of gratitude. There are some circumstances when to refuse a gift would be perceived as rude, insulting or hurtful.

You are expected to exercise sound judgment when deciding whether to accept a gift or benefit.

- 11.1. If you are offered a bribe (i.e. anything given in order to persuade you to act improperly), you must refuse it, explain why it is not appropriate, and immediately report the matter to the Principal.
- 11.2. Accepting gifts and other benefits has the potential to compromise your position by creating a sense of obligation and undermining your impartiality. It may also affect the reputation of the School and its staff. You must not create the impression that any person or organisation is influencing the School or the decisions or actions of any of its employees.
- 11.3. If you are offered a gift or benefit, you should always consider the value and purpose of a gift or benefit before making any decision about accepting it. A gift that is valued at more than \$200 should be registered through the School's gift register.
- 11.4. After such a gift is accepted, you must advise your Principal. The Principal will then determine how it should be treated.
- 11.5. Sometimes employees might, in the course of their work, win a prize of significant monetary value e.g. a computer, from another organisation. Prizes are usually considered the property of the School. If you win a prize you must advise your supervisor or the Principal who will determine how the prize should be treated and recorded.

## 12. COMMUNICATING AND PROTECTING CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

### 12.1. Communication

- (a) You should be mindful of confidentiality when in discussions with parents. You cannot provide a guarantee of confidentiality if the matter under discussion requires mandatory reporting.
- (b) You should not disclose personal information about a student or staff member to students or parents or discuss their work performance, except if authorised by the Principal in the context of complaints resolution.
- (c) All matters discussed in staff meetings and staff memos are to be treated confidentially and not discussed with students, members of the School community, or the public.
- (d) The media should not be given access to students or allowed entry to the School without the express permission of the Principal. You should not make any comments to the media about the School, students or parents without the express permission of the Principal.
- (e) You should not disclose information or share photos that could compromise the School's ability to safely carry out its *Disaster and Emergency* procedures. This includes sharing information with the media and uploading information onto social media sites.

## **12.2. Confidential Information**

- (a) As a School employee, you must only use confidential information for the work-related purpose it was intended.
- (b) Unless authorised to do so by legislation, you must not disclose or use any confidential information without the express permission of the Principal.
- (c) You must make sure that confidential information, in any form, cannot be accessed by unauthorised people.

## **12.3. Privacy**

- (a) Sensitive and personal information should only be provided to people, either within or outside the School, who are authorised to have access to it.
- (b) You should always exercise caution and sound judgment in discussing the personal information of students, parents, staff and other people with other School employees. Normally information should be limited to those who need to know in order to conduct their duties, or to those who can assist in carrying out the School's work because of their expertise.

## **13. RECORD KEEPING**

- 13.1. All employees have a responsibility:
  - (a) To create and maintain full, accurate and honest records of their activities, decisions and other business transactions; and
  - (b) To capture or store records in the School's record systems.
- 13.2. Employees must not destroy or remove records without appropriate authority.
- 13.3. Supervisors have a responsibility to ensure that the employees reporting to them comply with their records management obligations.
- 13.4. Employees responsible for assessing student learning and recording marks for students' work must do so accurately, fairly and in a manner that is consistent with relevant policy, curriculum and the requirements of the School.
- 13.5. Educators have a responsibility to provide quality teaching and learning plans in a timely manner.
- 13.6. Employees must maintain the confidentiality of all official information and documents which are not publicly available, or which have not been published.

## **14. COPYRIGHT AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

- 14.1 When creating material, you need to ensure the intellectual property rights of others are not infringed and information is recorded about any third-party copyright/other rights included in materials.
- 14.2 Advice relating to sharing or licensing the School's intellectual property should be sought from the Principal.
- 14.3 The School cannot give away or assign its intellectual property without the approval of the Principal.
- 14.4 If you develop material that relates to your employment with the School, the copyright in that material will belong to the School. This may apply even if the material was developed in your own time or at home.
- 14.5 You should not use the School's intellectual property (including copyright) for private purposes without obtaining written permission from the Principal.

## 15. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE RIVER SCHOOL CODE OF CONDUCT

I \_\_\_\_\_ (print full name) have read, understood, and agree to comply with the terms of this Code of Conduct.

- Position held within The River School: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dated