

Malahide Community School



Code of Behaviour 2025/2026

Expectation	Explanation	Illustrative Rules
Respect for Self and Others	<p>All members of the school community are expected to act in ways that promote mutual respect, personal dignity, and collective well-being. We must keep our Core Values of Kindness, Respect and Inclusion at the centre of everything we do. When things go wrong, we focus on understanding the impact and restoring trust.</p>	<p>R1. Follow instructions from teachers and staff promptly to support a safe and effective learning space. Ask respectfully if clarification is needed.</p> <p>R2. Avoid disruptive behaviour; instead, contribute to a calm and focused atmosphere where everyone can thrive.</p> <p>R3. Acknowledge that everyone has the right to learn and teach free from disruption. Recognise the effects of disruptive actions and take steps to repair harm.</p> <p>R4. Do not engage in physical or verbal behaviours that cause harm or distress.</p> <p>R5. Communicate using respectful, non-offensive language; learn how words impact others.</p> <p>R6. Keep mobile phones off and locked in YONDR pouches during school hours. (See Mobile Phone / Wellbeing Policy)</p> <p>R7. Do not share untrue or disrespectful content (online or otherwise) that could damage the school or its members.</p>
Respect for Property	<p>Respecting belongings - whether personal, shared, or belonging to the school - is essential. This includes treating resources with care and acknowledging the impact of taking or damaging what is not ours. Responsibility and honesty are key to rebuilding trust when property is disrespected.</p>	<p>R8. Take responsibility for your own items by clearly labelling them and seeking them calmly if misplaced. Avoid assuming the worst in others.</p> <p>R9. Never borrow, use, or take others' belongings or school property without permission.</p> <p>R10. Avoid damaging or defacing school property. If damage occurs, it must be reported, and students are encouraged to help repair the harm. The school is not responsible for personal property brought onto campus, which is done at students' own risk.</p>
Respect for the School Environment	<p>Maintaining cleanliness and order shows pride in our community and supports everyone's well-being. Students are expected to help maintain a pleasant environment for all. It shows respect to the people in our school community who work so hard to maintain a clean environment.</p>	<p>R11. Do not chew gum to help keep school clean.</p> <p>R12. Dispose of litter responsibly.</p> <p>R13. Eat and drink only in designated areas (Ground Floor corridors, Canteen, outside) to keep classrooms and corridors conducive to learning.</p> <p>R14. Use lockers responsibly by keeping them tidy, avoiding food storage and reporting issues promptly. Accessing lockers during class time should only be done with a teacher's permission to reduce disruption.</p>

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Attendance and Punctuality	<p>Being present and on time shows respect for learning and community. Clear communication about absences helps the school support students and meet legal obligations. When attendance falls short, we aim to understand why, and work collectively with students, parents, guardians and any outside agencies to re-engage students.</p>	<p>A1. Arrive by 8:35 a.m. so that lessons begin promptly at 8:45 a.m. Late arrival disrupts learning and unsettles others.</p> <p>A2. Provide reasons for all absences through the school App or journal; this supports pastoral care and meets the Education (Welfare) Act, 2000.</p> <p>A3. Attend all classes on time. Consistent lateness or absence can affect participation and have a negative impact on students' progress.</p> <p>A4. If arriving late, sign in at reception. Parents / Guardians are asked to provide a Late note via the School App.</p> <p>A5. Stay on school grounds at break and lunch (for junior students), unless given permission to leave.</p> <p>A6. Sign out through proper procedures if leaving during the day due to illness or appointments.</p> <p><u>Illness:</u> Go to the main office, parents / guardians will be contacted by the school.</p> <p><u>Appointments:</u> Permission to Leave notes are sent in advance (before 10:00) Students sign out at reception on the tablet. Contacting parents directly is not permitted as it causes confusion and may cause health and safety concerns for our students.</p>
School Uniform and General Dress	<p>Uniforms and appearance reflect our collective identity. Dressing appropriately shows self-respect and readiness to learn.</p>	<p>U1. Wear the full, correct uniform daily, including the school jacket and black/navy leather shoes. No non-uniform items should be worn to and from school. Shirts/polo shirts must be visible.</p> <p>U2. Piercings are limited to three stud earrings per ear to support safety and consistency.</p> <p>U3. Keep hair neat and clean; avoid extreme hairstyles.</p> <p>U4. Neatly groomed beards are allowed.</p> <p>U5. Make-up should be discreet. If it is considered excessive or inappropriate, you will be asked to remove it.</p> <p>U6. Leggings are not permitted as part of the school uniform.</p> <p>U7. PE uniform must be worn for all PE lessons by all year groups.</p>

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Safety for All	<p>The health and safety of everyone in our school community is of utmost importance. In order for our students to learn effectively and for teachers to teach, we must feel safe and feel a sense of belonging. Unsafe behaviours and prohibited items are taken seriously. When safety is compromised, we aim to respond with fairness, clarity, and a focus on preventing future harm.</p>	<p>S1. Smoking or vaping (including possession of related items) is prohibited anywhere on school grounds or during school activities. Breaches may result in suspension.</p> <p>S2. Alcohol and drugs are strictly forbidden at school or during any school-related activity.</p> <p>S3. Being present while others break substance rules (e.g., smoking) without removing yourself or speaking out may also result in consequences.</p> <p>S4. Staff may check lockers, bags, or footwear if there are serious concerns. Refusal to cooperate may lead to sanctions.</p> <p>S5. Avoid rough play or running indoors; this prevents injury.</p> <p>S6. Never tamper with safety equipment such as fire alarms, extinguishers, CCTV, or first aid kits.</p> <p>S7. Follow instructions immediately during fire alarms.</p> <p>S8. Act respectfully while wearing the school uniform offsite (e.g., on public transport).</p> <p>S9. Do not bring vehicles to school without prior permission.</p> <p>S10. Dangerous items (e.g., knives or weapons) are forbidden. Bringing them to school could result in expulsion.</p> <p>S11. Threatening or intimidating behaviour, including online, is unacceptable and will be addressed seriously.</p>