



It is expected that every parent/guardian/carer will uphold the **Mercy Regional College** core beliefs and values and model appropriate behaviours for their children to learn from. Parents/guardians/carers will work with **Mercy Regional College** as it educates and provides pastoral support to all students.

It is expected that every parent/guardian/carer will:

- uphold the school's core beliefs and values

- behave in a manner that does not endanger the health, safety and wellbeing of themselves or others
- abide by all health and safety rules and procedures operating within the school and other locations at which they may visit while representing the school

- ensure that their actions do not bring the school into disrepute

- respect school staff and accept their authority and direction within the exercise of their duties at the school

- observe all school rules as required

- strictly adhere to the school's policies and procedures as required

- behave with respect, courtesy, and consideration for others

- refrain from all forms of bullying and harassment

- refrain from any form of verbal insult or abuse and from any form of physical abuse or intimidation

- refrain from activities, conduct or communication that would reasonably be seen to undermine the reputation of the school, employees or students of the school, including activities on social media

- respect school property and the property of staff, contractors, volunteers and other students

- not be intoxicated by alcohol or under the influence of illicit drugs or other substances harmful to health while visiting the school site, attending school functions or engaging in school-based activities.

Parents are expected to be a role model for responsible and safe behaviours. This includes ensuring the health and safety of all members of our school community (including staff, students, parents/guardians/carers and alumni) and the wider community. Parents are expected to ensure that other individuals involved in their child's life, such as other relatives, grandparents and carers, also comply with this code.

Mercy Regional College expects that parents will behave respectfully at all times towards other members of the school community. This applies not only to words used, actions, but also to tone and body language.

The following is a non-exhaustive list of behaviours that are considered not respectful and are unacceptable:

- rude or insulting behaviour, including passive-aggressive, intimidating or derogatory language

- bullying, intimidation, discrimination, sexual harassment, victimisation and child abuse. Please note that in addition to being a breach of this code, such behaviour may also be unlawful

- actual or threatened aggression (verbal or non-verbal) or violence

- behaviour that causes a risk to a person's health and wellbeing

- defamatory or disrespectful comments

- gossip, rumour, and innuendo

- raising one's voice, or using offensive language or actions, while communicating

age-inappropriate language when communicating with or about children

vexatious complaints

any form of cyber bullying or cyber abuse that is directed towards the school, staff members, students or parents or any member connected to the school

approaching a child that is not your own with a view to disciplining that child for their behaviour. Such matters are only to be dealt with by school staff

approaching other school parents to resolve issues arising between students at school. Such matters should be referred to school staff

smoking or vaping on the school premises or within the immediate environs of the school

claiming to represent the school in any matter without explicit permission from the school principal to do so.

Parents/guardians/carers are expected to be respectful in their communication with others, be mindful of privacy and safety in publishing information online, and ensure confidential information is not shared without permission.

It is expected that every parent/guardian/carer will:

respect a staff member's professional and personal boundaries, by not using their personal online presence to raise school matters (or otherwise engage in disrespectful behaviour)

not take photos, videos or other recordings of a staff member or parent without their consent, or of a student without their parent's consent, and not publish information (including personal details, contact information, images and recordings) concerning a staff member, parent/guardian/carer, student or other member of the school community online without express consent

avoid publishing information which may bring the school (or any of its staff, students, parents and other members of the school community) into disrepute. This may include an image or recording which shows a student in school uniform, or a member of the school community at the school or at a school activity or event, behaving inappropriately

not communicate with students from another family outside of the school, including by email or on social media, without prior consent from that student's parent(s)/guardian/carer

not discuss confidential or sensitive school matters, including in relation to grievances about a particular staff member or student, online

obtain express permission to use the Mercy Regional College name or insignia in the title of any online website, forum or group, or printed or online publication. In addition, no suggestion should be made that any such platform or material is operated or sanctioned by the school.

Parents/guardians/carers must respect Mercy Regional College risk-management procedures when visiting the school and abide by all health and safety rules and procedures operating within the school and other locations at which they may visit while representing the school

Parents/guardians/carers should immediately proceed to Reception upon arrival to sign in, and should only enter a classroom or other student environment when invited to do so by a staff member. This requirement does not apply when visiting the school only to:

- (a) attend an activity or event to which all members of the school community have been invited
- (b) visit the School uniform shop
- (c) drop-off or collect a child from school

When visiting Mercy Regional College or attending school activities and events, parents should demonstrate appropriate and respectful behaviours, and uphold the school's values. This includes:

- demonstrating good conduct and supporting fair play when attending the school's art, drama and sporting events
- demonstrating respect for the Catholic faith when attending a Church service or other religious event
- complying with applicable occupation, student and workplace health and safety and risk-management procedures
- complying with any reasonable directions given by the school's staff
- dressing appropriately for the occasion
- not being under the influence of drugs or alcohol (and otherwise not engaging in the possession, sale or supply of the same at the school)
- behaving lawfully on School grounds whether at events hosted by or connected to the school, whether conducted on site or otherwise
- ensuring that physical contact with students is appropriate given the age of, and relationship with, the student
- respecting the School's property and the property of other members of the school community (including staff, students and parents)
- respecting that the school and school environs are cigarette and vape free at all times.

When dropping off and picking up students from Mercy Regional College, parents are expected to ensure the health and safety of all members of our school community, as well as the wider community, at all times.

Parents must comply with all traffic rules and any School traffic management system in place. This includes adhering to applicable speed limits, observing all traffic signs, limiting the use of car horns (unless indicating imminent danger), and parking appropriately and safely.

Parents must also comply with any government issued health orders or directions in response to COVID-19 or any other pandemic. This includes adhering to vaccination, social distancing and face mask requirements (as applicable from time to time).

Mercy Regional College is committed to the education and wellbeing of each student. It is therefore critical that parents/guardians/carers are able to raise genuine grievances they may have about such matters in an appropriate, constructive and respectful manner.

Mercy Regional College grievance-management procedures are set out in the school's Complaints Management Policy and Procedures. This policy sets out how concerns and grievances may be raised with Mercy Regional College who they should be raised with; and how the school will deal with these in a respectful and timely manner.

Parents/guardians/carers with grievances or complaints should consult the school's Complaints Management Policy and Procedures, which are available on Mercy Regional College website.

Parents/guardians/carers are, as a condition of enrolment, expected to read, sign, and comply with Mercy Regional College Enrolment Agreement, Mercy Regional College Parent/Guardian/Carer Code of Conduct ( ), and relevant school policies.

The Principal will have absolute discretion for deciding how to best respond to concerns about a parent's

