

## RATIONALE

Queensland Academy for Health Science (QAHS) students have the right to receive a quality education.

In order to enhance and support quality learning at the QAHS a Responsible Behaviour Plan for students has been formulated. We believe this plan will set the platform for developing an Academy culture that:

- Provides an opportunity for all students to reach their learning potential.
- Ensures the safety of staff and students.
- Fosters confidence, responsibility and self-discipline.
- Assists students who may exhibit challenging behaviour to accept responsibility for themselves and their actions.
- Provides a social framework allowing every student to learn and succeed.
- Cultivates integrity and mutual respect.
- Develops leadership skills.

### **Respect:**

Treat others with consideration and regard, respect another person's right to hold views and express these.

### **Responsibility:**

Be accountable for one's own actions, resolve differences in constructive, peaceful ways, contribute to society and civic life and take care of the environment.

### **Honesty and Trustworthiness:**

Be honest, sincere and seek the truth.

### **Understanding, Tolerance and Inclusion:**

Be aware of others and their cultures, accept diversity within a democratic society, be included and include others.

## ACADEMY REQUIREMENTS FOR RESPONSIBLE STUDENT BEHAVIOUR

In order to be able to provide each student with the opportunity to reach their potential, students should expect to:

- Be able to learn without distraction or interference from others.
- Work in a safe environment.
- Feel safe from harassment, bullying and discrimination.
- Be shown respect by their peers and teachers.
- Be empowered to take responsibility for their own behaviour and progress.

The following Responsible Behaviours are provided as a minimum standard to guide all students enrolled at the QAHS.

## Health and Safety:

Students are expected to behave in a manner that maintains their own safety and that of others in the Academy community. For example, students are advised to familiarise themselves with the location of fire exits and fire extinguishers.

- Under no circumstances are students to tamper with any fire fighting equipment or electrical equipment at the Academy.
- Students are not permitted to ride skateboards or rollerblades around the Academy campus.
- Climbing on external building fixtures, sporting fixtures or construction equipment is prohibited.

Many of the following responsible behaviours have been constructed with student health, safety and security in mind.

## Attendance:

QAHS requires all students to be respectful of their obligation to attend classes at the scheduled daily start time. Students should not be on the campus prior to 7.00am or after 6pm each Academy day unless participating in an organised activity, prearranged meeting or under staff supervision as agreed with staff.

Students who arrive late should do so with a signed note from their parent/guardian. In the event that the student does not have a signed note and at the sole discretion of the QAHS staff member, the student's parent may be contacted and advised of the late attendance.

In the event that a student has not attended classes for a day a parental note is required upon return to class. Should the student omit to provide a parental note when they resume attendance, the student's parent will be advised of the situation.

## Academy Bounds:

During Academy hours, students are to remain within the bounds of the academy unless a member of staff has given express permission. The following areas are out of bounds:

- Roofs of buildings
- All garden areas
- Staff rooms
- Classrooms without a teacher present
- Academy grounds outside of normally acceptable Academy hours
- Griffith University Campus unless in transit or through express permission of Academy staff

## Mobile Phone Policy:

Common courtesy remains the best parameter to determine the use of mobile phones. The following guidelines are based on the principles of common sense and courtesy and should provide for a consistent and fair response to mobile phone usage.

- It is the parents/guardians responsibility to give their consent for their child to carry a mobile phone to the Academy.
- Students who bring mobile phones to the Academy do so at their own risk.
- Students should ensure that they have a pin number for their phone and do not share this number with other students to avoid other students incurring charges.
- Students must observe correct phone etiquette, the phone must be turned off during all classes, meetings, assemblies etc (this means that students should not be receiving or sending text messages during these times).
- Students must not take mobile phones into change rooms, toilets or any other situation where the privacy of other students or staff can be compromised. Federal legislation contains heavy penalties for those who deliberately violate the right to privacy of individuals or groups.

- If a student is unwilling to comply with these guidelines the phone will be confiscated and returned to the parent/guardian upon their request.

### **Motor Vehicles:**

Students who drive to the Academy must not park on the Academy property. Students are not to use their vehicles during Academy hours. Students must not under any circumstances transport other students unless the passenger has submitted prior written permission from their parents to the Principal of QAHS.

### **Alcohol, Prohibited Drugs & Tobacco:**

Students are forbidden to consume/possess/supply or sell alcohol or prohibited drugs in or around the Academy. Students are also forbidden to possess any implement or instrument that is used to administer prohibited drugs.

The possession/use/supply and sale of tobacco (cigarettes) is forbidden in or around the Academy campus.

The Academy has a ZERO tolerance policy with regard to these items. Should a student be found in possession of these prohibited items the consequence will be severe up to and including instant expulsion and may result in legal action.

### **Weapons /Firearms and Dangerous Prohibited Items:**

Students are forbidden to possess Weapons, Firearms and Dangerous items at the Academy. These include:

- Guns
- Knives/Blades/razors
- Martial Art Weapons
- Sling shots
- Blow pipes

### **Other Prohibited Items:**

- Pornographic material
- Sniffing glue/paint
- Lighters/matches
- Permanent felt marker
- Chewing/bubble Gum

Sanctions for non-compliance will be a matter for standard Academy disciplinary process and/or legal action.

### **Damaged Property/Vandalism:**

The Academy is the property of all students and it is our expectation that the students will treat it with respect. In the event that Academy property has been damaged the responsible student should report the incident in a timely manner. Disciplinary action resulting from intentional damage/vandalism will be dependent on the intent and extent of the damage.

Sanctions for this behaviour will be a matter for standard Academy disciplinary process and/or legal action.

### **Harassment:**

Harassment in all forms is not acceptable at the Academy. Harassment includes acts of violence, verbal abuse, intimidation and bullying (as detailed below). Sexual Harassment may take the form of either physical or non physical acts, all of which are unacceptable. These include, but are not

restricted to: unwelcome touching or physical contact, innuendo or crude comments, jokes, offensive gestures and the display of photographs or other visual offensive material.

What may not appear as harassment to one student may be considered to be harassment and offensive to a reasonable person of similar age and maturity.

### **Bullying:**

Bullying is an unacceptable behaviour at the Academy. Bullying is behaviour that is unwelcomed, hurtful, threatening or frightening and is directed at another person. This behaviour can be identified by a number of characteristics and is often a repeated behaviour.

These characteristics can fall into the following categories: physical, non-physical, electronic media and emotional. Examples of each are:

- i. Verbal - abusive telephone calls, intimidation, threats of violence, name calling, racist remarks, remarks containing sexual innuendos, abusive language, making and spreading false and malicious rumours.
- ii. Physical - spitting, pushing, shoving, fighting, kicking, biting, scratching, pinching, restricting movements of another person, and other unwelcomed physical contact that has the intent to harm, hurt or intimidate.
- iii. Emotional - manipulating behaviours, impairing friendships, staring, intentionally and systematically ignoring, excluding or isolating.
- iv. Electronic Media - includes inappropriate use of text messages, emails, camera phones and websites including social networking sites, to cause harm, hurt or intimidation to another person.

Incidents of bullying should be reported by those who are aware of such behaviour. The Academy staff will gather information regarding the bullying incidents and deal with each case based on its circumstance.

### **Theft:**

Theft of Academy or private property will not be tolerated. Students are not permitted to search in or remove items from another student's bag, locker or belongings without their explicit prior consent. To damage, destroy, alter, sell or offer as collateral the property belonging to others, without their consent is theft.

### **Consequences:**

The consequences of breaches of the stated standards of behaviour will be addressed through the Academy's Behaviour Management Process. The Administration will communicate consequences taken to staff members and to all relevant stakeholders involved in the process.

Students who commit serious breaches of the code or persistent breaches of a less serious nature of the code may be suspended, excluded or have their enrolment cancelled by the Principal.