



Student Code of Conduct

Mission Statement/Rationale/Introduction

St Patrick's College, Ballarat is a Catholic day and boarding school for boys in Years 7 to 12 in the Edmund Rice tradition, established in 1893 and conducted by Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA).

Central to the mission of the College is an unequivocal commitment to fostering the dignity, self-esteem and integrity of all students and providing them with a safe, supportive and enriching environment to develop spiritually, physically, intellectually, emotionally and socially. The College is committed to achieving excellence in all its forms.

St Patrick's aspires to be faithful to the Touchstones of a Catholic School in the Edmund Rice tradition; these touchstones are Liberating Education, Justice and Solidarity, Gospel Spirituality and Inclusive Community.

The students of St. Patrick's assert our community is at its best when it is truly inclusive; when everyone supports and accepts each other, regardless of their background or interests. Students strive to build positive relationships with one another, take pride in who they are as members of the College community and endeavour to be an active and positive contributor as custodians of the College's everlasting heritage and legacy.

This Student Code of Conduct and Student Agreement serves to present our students with a clear set of values that we believe determines what it truly means to be a student at St. Patrick's College, Ballarat.

Importantly, this Code of Conduct has been created, developed and determined **by** our students, **for** our students to ensure it is an authentic model that accurately reflects the expectations and attitudes of the students of St Patrick's.

Students agree that the St. Patrick's College community is built upon:

- A mutual respect for all
- A commitment to quality education characterised by excellence
- A strong sense of community and belonging
- Recognising and seizing opportunities
- Demonstrating the effort and pride characteristic of a true 'Paddy boy'
- Challenging social injustices in all its forms

The students involved in the development of the Code of Conduct, expressed many of their key ideas as a series of rights and responsibilities. St Patrick's College students have the following rights and responsibilities:

Rights	Responsibilities
<i>To express your true identity, values and beliefs</i>	<i>To be conscious and respectful of others' thoughts, feelings, opinions and beliefs, as well as community expectations and values</i>
<i>To have your privacy valued and always honoured</i>	<i>To respect one another's privacy constantly and consistently</i>
<i>To feel safe at all times</i>	<i>To behave in an appropriate manner in line with school policies (including resolving conflicts with understanding and reasoning as opposed to violence)</i>
<i>To enjoy and make the most of your time at the College</i>	<i>To attempt to achieve your very best, as well as support your peers to reach their full potential</i>
<i>To represent the College positively and responsibly</i>	<i>To wear my College uniform proudly and to express the traditions and values of St. Patrick's College through my conduct both within the school grounds and in the broader community at all times</i>
<i>To thrive in a non-judgemental and diverse environment that welcomes and accepts all</i>	<i>To demonstrate understanding, respect and empathy to all people, regardless of their ethnicity, gender, beliefs or values</i>
<i>To do what you love</i>	<i>To embrace your own passions at the College, whilst also respecting and celebrating the hobbies and commitments of others, whether this be sports, arts or science</i>

Respect for Myself:

As a member of St. Patrick's College, I will:

- access an education that is fun, challenging and rewarding in order to become the best version of myself.
- learn in an environment that is built upon respectful relationships that promotes and champions diversity.
- maintain an environment in which all are welcomed, respected, accepted and feel safe.
- actively challenge those who choose to do the wrong thing - acting upon the idea that all it takes for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing.
- represent the College as a compassionate and empathetic young man.
- be an ethical and responsible user of technology and ICT that empowers your education and others.
- conduct myself with the maturity and integrity to be responsible for my actions and accept the consequences.
- strive to achieve my very best, as well as encourage my classmates to reach their goals.
- appreciate the opportunities present within the College and everything it has to offer.

Respect for Others:

As a member of St. Patrick's College, I will:

- express my personal values and beliefs in a manner that is honest, respectful of others and ultimately true to myself.
- hear and support the voices of all within the College community.
- uphold the Student Code of Conduct to maintain an environment where all are treated equally and equitably.
- promote and model an attitude that champions diversity and holds respectful relationships in the highest regard.
- identify and call out all aspects of injustice, including prejudice such as racism, sexism, any form of violence, particularly against women, homophobia, transphobia, ageism and ableism.
- recognise my duty as a responsible young male to establish and promote responsible relationships with women.
- respect my teachers and work alongside them so that everyone has access to a high quality education.

Respecting College Policies

As a member of the St. Patrick's College community, students are held accountable to their actions and that of the regulations outlined in the College's policies. When mistakes are made, teachers aid you in understanding the impact and consequences of your actions and provide you with the means to repair the situation. Your perspective will be heard and documented. You will receive the time to reflect upon who or what has been challenged by your choices. This may result in teachers contacting your parents/carers, who may also be involved in a meeting with you and relevant teachers.

Serious breaches of the Code of Conduct may result in the College contacting and meeting your parents/carers to discuss your actions and the appropriate consequences. This might result in certain privileges of the College being suspended to you, your inability to apply for eligible leadership positions or opportunities to participate in significant experiences such as excursions and tours. In extreme situations, you may be suspended for a determined period, expelled from the College and/or be referred to external authorities where appropriate or as required by law.

The Code of Conduct for Students does not replace the established College policies; rather, it sits aside and complements the following guidelines:

Status of Policy

This policy has been downloaded from CompliSpace, is endorsed by EREA-VSL and is reviewed annually.

Policy owner	St Patrick's College - Ballarat
Approving authority	Principal
Approval date	May 2025
Risk rating	HIGH
Date of next review	May 2026
Publication details	School website

POLICY DATABASE INFORMATION	
Assigned TERE Board Framework	Child Safety
Related policies	Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy Child Safety Policy – Student Version Cyber Safety Policy Disability Discrimination Policy EREA Child Safety Code of Conduct (VIC) ICT Acceptable Use Policy Personal Electronic Device Policy Student Attendance Policy Student Behaviour Management Policy Student Care, Safety and Welfare Policy Student Duty of Care Policy Student Voice and Participation Statement Uniform Policy
Superseded documents	Replaces previous policy for MO870