

Muhammadiyah Australia College

STUDENT BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT POLICY



Endorsed on:	April 2026
Endorsed by:	Board of Directors
Next Review:	April 2028



MUHAMMADIYAH AUSTRALIA COLLEGE

ABN 67 626 804 877

1-3 Killarney Drive Melton VIC 3337

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Purpose

Muhammadiyah Australia College (the College) is committed to creating and providing a safe and respectful teaching and learning environment where challenging behaviours are minimised, and students can learn in an environment where they feel empowered, safe and secure.

The purpose of this policy is to set out the principles and procedures governing the College approach to student behaviour management. This policy provides an overview of how the College will promote positive student behaviours, prevent behavioural issues, and respond to challenging student behaviour. Under this policy the use of corporal punishment **is explicitly prohibited**.

All students are expected to behave in a manner consistent with the College's core values and consistent with community expectations. Students are expected to respect themselves, respect others, and respect the College environment and behave in a manner that promotes their own pursuit of excellence and the pursuit of excellence in others.

The College Principal and other College Staff may from time-to-time establish certain rules to facilitate the orderly conduct of College life. These rules, such as those related to talking, may vary between teachers. The College Principal and College Teaching Staff are responsible for setting rules and for ensuring the students are aware of them. College Staff are also responsible for addressing behaviours that violate the rules through counselling and the application of sanctions.

Scope

This policy applies to student behaviours that occur

- on College Grounds
- outside of College Grounds but while on College related activities
- whilst travelling to or from the College via College bus

Student behaviour that occurs outside of school hours or in other locations is not covered by this policy.

Implementation

College Staff are responsible for maintaining a respectful and ordered environment while students are on College Grounds, are on a College activity away from College Grounds, and while travelling to or from the College whilst travelling on the school bus. The Principal is responsible for implementing this policy.

The primary disciplinary focus of the College is to focus on positive behaviours and on mutual respect. However, the College also acknowledges that from time-to-time students will need to be sanctioned to maintain a safe and ordered environment and to foster moral development.

Other than in an emergency or crisis when students are expected to directly follow the orders of College Staff, the school disciplinary process primary focus is on reasoning and on a



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student's moral and personal development. However, from time-to-time school discipline may also involve the sanctioning of students.

Shared Behaviour Expectations

All students have rights and responsibilities. The College recognises the importance of providing clear guidance and expectations which are applicable to all members of the school community.

Students have a right to:

- An education without interference or disruption from other students,
- A safe, secure and clean learning environment where they can fully develop their abilities, interests and ambitions,
- Know their property will be safe at all times,
- Be treated with consideration and respect.

Students are expected to:

- Take responsibility for their learning and have high expectations of themselves that they can learn,
- Uphold the College's core values of fairness, empowerment, deliberate and purposeful, industrious and inclusive,
- Allow other students to learn and teachers/staff to teach and work in an environment free from disruption,
- Treat other people with respect regardless of their race, religion, sexual preference or gender,
- Respect the rights, educational opportunities and property of others,
- Take responsibility for their own behaviour and the impact of their behaviour on others,
- Comply with this Policy and work with teachers and parents ensure that they follow all reasonable requests of staff and respect the rights of others to be safe and to learn.

Parents, carers or guardians are expected to:

- Support their child to meet the behavioural expectations of the College,
- Support the implementation of the College's behavioural aims including adhering to the Codes of Conduct, individual behavioural management plan or suspension periods,
- Provide any relevant information about their child's circumstances which may impact on the student's behaviour,
- Cooperate with the College by assisting in the enforcement of strategies to address individual needs,
- Acknowledge and understand that unacceptable behaviour by a student, or repeated behaviour by a parent, carer or guardian that is unacceptable and



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damaging to the partnership between parents, carers or guardians and the College, may result in suspension or termination of their child's enrolment.

Principals, teachers and staff will:

- Promote positive reinforcement and enhance student self-esteem by having a planned approach for recognising and responding to appropriate behaviour,
- Deliver an inclusive and engaging curriculum which promotes positive behaviours and emphasises the wellbeing of every student,
- Create an environment where appropriate behaviour is the norm for all students and focus on the implementation of preventative and early intervention strategies to deal with attendance and behavioural issues,
- Support the professional development needs of all staff to enable them to develop and maintain positive relationships with their students, to understand the diverse circumstances of students and provide support to those who are vulnerable or who have special needs,
- Recognise that for some students (including vulnerable students or students with disabilities) additional support may be needed in the form of staged responses and will working with families to reintegrate students in an educational setting after any suspension or exclusion period.

Positive behaviours

All students are expected to engage in classroom and other activities by:

- being prepared to engage in and take full advantage of the College program
- making every effort to do their very best
- being self-disciplined to ensure a cooperative learning environment
- engaging in collaboration and teamwork
- respectful communication
- trusting others
- regular attendance and be punctual for all timetabled classes
- being prepared to participate fully in lessons by bringing required books and equipment
- account for absences by providing signed notes from their parents, guardians or carers explaining any absences and lateness
- modelling the school's core values
- taking responsibility for their behaviour and its impact on others
- obeying all reasonable requests of staff
- respecting the rights of others to learn
- respecting the property of others
- complying with the school's policies and working with teachers and parents in developing strategies.

The College will recognise and reward students who consistently demonstrate these behaviours.



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Sanctioned behaviours

The following student behaviours can attract sanctions from Teaching Staff or the College Principal:

- talking or disrupting other students in class
- students putting themselves or others at risk of harm
- throwing food, water, or other material
- violence, bullying and harassment towards other students or College Staff (see 8.10)
- cyberbullying of other students or College Staff (see 8.10.3)
- aggressive behaviour
- unsafe behaviours
- use of obscene language
- unauthorised absences from class
- possessing or the taking of drugs, alcohol, or other illicit substances
- possessing or using weapons
- theft or school property or the property of others
- fighting
- failing to follow a teacher's instructions
- vandalising or applying graffiti
- failure to stay in designated school grounds
- cheating in exams and assessment activities
- persistent failure to attempt to complete homework
- deliberate misuse of school resources in classes such as science, art, and physical education
- misuse of lockers, and a failure to maintain a clean locker.

Behavioural expectations, consideration of age or physical or psychological disability.

The College recognises that younger students require a different approach to behaviour when compared to more mature students. The College also recognises that some students with physical or psychological disabilities may find it more difficult to behave in a manner consistent with the College's general behavioural expectations. These factors will be considered in the application of sanctions such as withdrawal of privileges, detention, suspension and expulsion. The College approach to discipline is sensitive to varied concerns and does not strictly apply a one rule for all policy.

Where a student with a physical or psychological disability continually behaves in a manner that interferes with the rights of others, or risks harm to self or others, then the College will develop an Individual Behaviour Management Plan (refer to **Appendix 1**) for such student.

Behavioural management

The College core value of respect underpins the College's approach to behaviour management of students.

The College encourages all members of the College Community to work towards mutual



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understanding of each other's perspectives and towards mutual respect. The behavioural expectations provide an overarching approach to students, with College Staff and College Teachers also having the capacity to develop rules of behaviour within this framework to

- meet the needs of individual students, such as those with a behavioural condition
- meet the needs of specific subject areas such as Sport, Science, Technology
- meet the needs of specific on-site or off-site excursions
- ensure that emergency conditions and emerging risks are appropriately managed.

The College values mutual respect across the College Community, and while College Staff has the authority to set the behavioural expectations, staff are also encouraged to consider the perspectives of students and to be responsive to concerns expressed by students to ensure fairness. There is an expectation that all questions and propositions put by students to College Staff in good faith be treated with respect and courtesy and be responded to. Where a student's proposition put in good faith is rejected by a College Staff member, that staff member is expected to provide a good reason that the student is generally expected to understand without further argument.

The College ensures fairness at a personal level through respect and has more formal procedures for addressing fairness for more serious complaints and grievances such as those related to decisions made by the College to sanction students.

Actions

1.College-wide support

The College promotes inclusive, preventative and early intervention strategies and practices for all its students to support positive behaviours, including:

- providing a learning environment conducive to positive behaviours and student engagement,
- empowering students by creating opportunities to take responsibility and be involved in decision making,
- monitoring attendance and academic progress of students to ensure students at risk are identified early and intervention strategies are implemented.

2. Targeted intervention

Some students may require targeted support or intervention to meet behavioural standards. These students will be supported through an appropriate staged response, which will include:

- understanding the student's background and welfare needs,
- ensuring a clear understanding of expectations by both students and teachers,
- providing additional support in the classroom and through consultation with the Student Welfare Officer,
- adjusting the student's learning program,
- documenting incidents and absences relating to the management of student behaviour and attendance to inform decision making,



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- implementing an Individual Behaviour Management Plan as appropriate,
- consulting parent, carer or guardian (via phone, video conference call or interview) to discuss issues and gather all relevant information,
- consulting specialist providers such as medical practitioners, psychologists, social and youth workers as necessary (on a case-by-case basis).

The College will implement additional support as required for students with complex and ongoing difficulties where college-wide and targeted support have not been successful in consultation with parents, carers and guardians and may often require consent to access specialized professional services. However, there are consequences for misbehaviour or poor behaviour.

Consequences for Misbehaviour

Sanctions

The College has graded sanctions as part of its student discipline policy to address the challenging behaviour of students that compromises the safe and orderly learning environment at the College.

Withdrawal of Privileges

The College may withdraw privileges from students for a limited time. The reasons for the withdrawal of privileges will be clearly communicated to the student, as will the behaviour standards expected for the privileges to be reinstated. When withdrawing privileges, College Staff will consider if the withdrawal might increase the risk of a student becoming disengaged from learning or College life.

Privileges that may be withdrawn include

- participation in the College activities such as camps
- participation in College organised sports
- participation in College organised extra-curricular activities

Withdrawal from Class

When a student's behaviour interferes with the rights of other students to learn, or where a student's behaviour involves the possibility of harm to other students, that student may be temporarily removed from regular classroom activities or be required to leave the classroom for a specified time.

When a student is required to leave the classroom, the student's teacher and the College Principal will arrange for the student to be appropriately supervised and that their attendance is appropriately recorded. This will involve requiring the student to complete allocated class work while being supervised.



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Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion

A student may be suspended from College if this is the only appropriate course of action. This may occur in cases where the student's behaviour puts the health, safety and well-being of other students, staff or themselves at significant risk, or where actions require reporting to police or appropriate agencies. If other strategies are unsuccessful in modifying student behaviour, the College will implement its suspension and expulsion procedures. Students will be suspended or expelled from the College only as a last resort when other strategies have been exhausted, or where a student has been involved in serious misconduct.

Refer to **Suspension and Expulsion Policy**.

Relevant Policies

Duty of Care Policy

Yard Duty and Supervision Policy

Child Safety Policy

Restraint and Seclusion Policy

First Aid Policy

Bullying and Harassment Policy

Communication

This policy will be communicated to our College community in either the following ways:

- Provided to staff at induction and included in staff handbook/manual
- Discussed at staff meetings/briefings as required
- Made available publicly on our College website
- Made available in hard copy from College administration upon request



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Appendix 1 – Individual Behaviour Management Plan

Name and contact:		Age	
Teacher/s		Class	
Principal		Date	

Background information	
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Discussion

Strengths What is the student good at? What do others like about them?	
Academic/Social/Other Concerns Identified issues which need to be addressed?	
Setting events / Antecedent Events or circumstances that make the misbehaviour more likely, including identified trigger and behaviour.	
Target/agreed behaviour Describe the targeted/agreed behaviour including preventative strategies and techniques.	



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Function/Recognition	
What the student gets or avoids as a result of meeting the targeted behaviour.	

Date completed: _____

Date to be reviewed: _____

Student signature: _____

Parent/guardian/carer signature: _____

Principal signature: _____