



Avalon College

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Purpose

Avalon College is committed to fostering a safe, respectful and inclusive learning environment for all students. This **Student Code of Conduct** outlines the expected standards of behaviour for all students across academic, residential and extracurricular settings. It ensures compliance with:

- **VRQA standards**
- **Ministerial Order No. 1359**
- **The Education and Training Reform Act 2006 (Vic)**
- **Relevant Australian legislation on bullying and cyberbullying**

By signing this document, students acknowledge their understanding of these rules and accept responsibility to uphold them at all times. This Code applies to student conduct:

- During class, study periods and extracurricular activities
- Within boarding houses, dining areas and other residential facilities
- On school excursions, camps and travel to/from events
- In all online environments, including school-managed digital platforms

2. Scope

This Code applies to:

- All enrolled Avalon College students
- All learning, social and residential environments – on-campus and online
- Interactions on school grounds and via digital communication platforms, including social media

3. Student Rights & Responsibilities

Student Rights

All students have the right to:

- Learn in a safe, inclusive environment free from bullying, harassment and discrimination
- Be treated with respect and dignity by staff and peers
- Express themselves respectfully and constructively
- Receive academic, wellbeing and personal support



Student Responsibilities

Students are expected to:

- Treat others with kindness, respect and fairness
- Follow all school rules and staff instructions
- Use technology ethically and responsibly
- Avoid bullying, harassment or discriminatory behaviour, both offline and online
- Abide by Avalon College's **English-Only Policy**
- Report any safety or wellbeing concerns to a trusted staff member

If you ever feel unsafe or concerned for yourself or others, speak with a trusted adult such as a teacher, Child Safety Officer, boarding staff member or the Managing Director. Your safety and voice will always be prioritised.

3.1 English-Only Policy

To promote inclusivity and support language development:

- Students must speak English at all times while on school grounds and during boarding hours
- Exceptions apply during designated times (e.g., home-language call hours)

3.2 Technology & Device Use

- Students must adhere to the **Avalon College ICT & Device Policy**
- Mobile phone use is restricted during class and study times
- Misuse of technology — including cyberbullying, inappropriate content sharing or unauthorised recording — is strictly prohibited

3.3 Behaviour in Boarding

- Respect personal space and maintain clean, orderly living areas
- Follow curfews, check-in procedures and all boarding staff instructions

3.4 Dress Code & Uniform

- School uniform must be worn correctly during academic hours
- Casual attire outside academic hours should remain appropriate and respectful
- Personal grooming must align with school expectations

3.5 Health & Safety

- Possession or use of alcohol, drugs, cigarettes or vaping devices is strictly prohibited
- Violence, threats or intimidation will not be tolerated
- Students are encouraged to report any health or safety concerns immediately

4. Bullying, Cyberbullying & Australian Law

4.1 What is Bullying and Cyberbullying?

Bullying is repeated, harmful behaviour directed at another person that causes harm, distress or humiliation. **Cyberbullying** involves the use of digital platforms to harass, intimidate or threaten others.

Examples include:

- Sending harassing or threatening messages
- Sharing private, misleading or harmful content without consent
- Creating fake profiles to deceive or defame
- Encouraging others to exclude or abuse someone online

4.2 Relevant Australian Laws

Cyberbullying and online harassment is illegal in Australia. Applicable legislation includes:

- ***Criminal Code Act 1995 (Cth)*** — prohibits digital menacing and harassment
- ***Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015 (Cth)*** — enables the eSafety Commissioner to act on harmful content
- ***Defamation Act 2005 (Vic)*** — protects individuals from damaging false statements

4.3 Consequences

Students engaging in bullying or cyberbullying may face:

- Disciplinary action, including warnings, suspension or behavioural contracts
- Mandatory education sessions on respectful online behaviour
- Reports to the eSafety Commissioner or law enforcement
- Formal incident reviews and parent/guardian involvement

5. Respectful Behaviour & Digital Conduct

All students must:

- Communicate respectfully — in person and online
- Use digital platforms in accordance with the **ICT & Device Policy**
- Report inappropriate or harmful behaviour
- Respect privacy, personal data and digital boundaries

6. Consequences for Misconduct

6.1 Minor Infractions

May result in:

- Verbal warnings
- Lunchtime or after-school detentions
- Loss of certain privileges

Examples include: tardiness, minor uniform breaches, misuse of shared property

6.2 Major Infractions

May result in:

- Suspension
- Behavioural contracts
- Parent/guardian conferences

Examples include: repeated dishonesty, bullying, misuse of technology, defiance

6.3 Serious Misconduct

May result in:

- Expulsion
- Police involvement (for illegal activity)

Examples include: possession of drugs or weapons, theft, violence or severe harassment

All misconduct will be handled fairly and consistently, with access to support where appropriate.

7. Acknowledgement & Signature

By signing below, I confirm that I have read, understood and agreed to follow the Avalon College Student Code of Conduct.

Student Name: _____ **Signature:** _____

Date: _____

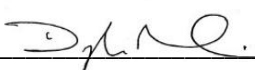
Parent/Guardian Name: _____ **Signature:** _____

Date: _____

8. Policy Review

This policy is reviewed annually to ensure alignment with VRQA standards and current Australian laws related to student conduct and online safety.

Approved by: Avalon College Managing Director

Signature:  _____

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Next Review Date: 27 March 2026

Approved By: Avalon College Managing Director