

RIDGEVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL



CODE OF CONDUCT

FOUNDATION PHASE AND INTERSEN PHASE

2021

NOTE ON THE CODE OF CONDUCT:

Included, please find a copy of the Code of Conduct for 2021. The Code of Conduct must be acknowledged and accepted; the reply slip, signed by the parents and learners, must be handed to their register teacher early in 2021.

MRS N GIRHAWU
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Ridgevale Primary School



Code of Conduct

Dear Parents,

Section 8 of the SA Schools Act provides that a School Governing Body of a public school must adopt a Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct must aim at establishing a disciplined and purposeful environment to facilitate effective education and learning in schools.

At Ridgevale, we pride ourselves on the excellent quality of our educators and education. To ensure continued positive discipline it is of the utmost importance that all learners, parents and educators uphold the Code of Conduct.

Learners must understand that action may be taken against them if they break the Code of Conduct. However, our aim is to encourage positive behaviour from our learners. The Merit Code is designed to encourage and reward positive behaviour. (See attached Merit Code)

This is a working document and parental input is always welcomed. Any comments may be forwarded to Mr Jordaan. This document will be revised at the end of each year to suit the requirements of the school at that time.

Yours in Education

TJ JORDAAN
PRINCIPAL

Legislative Framework:

- 1) The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa 1996 (Act No. 108 of 1996), as amended.
- 2) The South African School's Act of 1996 (Act No. 84 of 1996), as amended.
- 3) The Regulations for Misconduct of Learners at Public Schools and Disciplinary Proceedings (General Notice 2591 of 2001).
- 4) Circular 74 of 2007 – Management of Suspension and Expulsion of Learners in Public Ordinary Schools.
- 5) General Notice 6903 of 2000, as amended.

Preamble:

Aim of the Code of Conduct is to:

- encourage learners to regulate/manage behaviour;
- establish a disciplined and purposeful environment that promotes healthy interaction conducive to an environment for learning;
- uphold the rights of all learners, parents and educators and promote their acceptance of responsibility for the school;
- set a standard of moral behaviour for learners to equip them with the expertise, knowledge and skills to become responsible citizens;
- develop learners to be true and proud ambassadors of our school at all times;
- promote and support diversity that is inherent in the school environment; and
- inform learners of the way in which they are expected to conduct themselves at school so that they understand the value of rules and how it shapes the behaviour of society at large.

An extract from the Provincial Gazette Extra-ordinary.

4 October 2000

"Misconduct" means misconduct committed by a learner and includes the following:

- misconduct committed on the premises of a school, whether during or outside of school hours;
- misconduct committed during any school activity, irrespective of whether it is committed within or outside school premises, and during or outside of school hours, and
- any conduct, committed in or out of school uniform and within or outside the school premises,

Which –

- tends to bring the school into disrepute;
- interferes with the governance, authority and proper administration of the school;
- interferes with the conditions necessary for any school activity;
- subject to the reasonable exercise of the right TO assembly, demonstrate, picket a petition as provided in the Constitution, 1996 and the code, is committed with the intention of preventing any person from exercising his or her rights, powers or duties as a member of the school community, or is committed in retaliation against such exercise; or is prohibited by the code of the school.

CODE OF CONDUCT

According to the School's Act 84 of 1996, each child has the right to be educated in an environment that is safe, clean & conducive to quality Teaching & Learning which we, at Ridgevale Primary School, endeavour to uphold.

"The Education of the Learners is the Responsibility of the School & its Educators, the Behaviour of the Learners is the Responsibility of the Parents"

We believe that Education and Behaviour go hand in hand as, the way in which a Learner behaves, directly influences his/her education as well as that of other Learners.

This Code of Conduct was drawn up by **all the relevant stakeholders** and promotes the Mission Statement of the school as well as the basic objectives, which underline a well-balanced, broad education for Learners, a professional environment for Educators and a milieu for universally accepted values and principles. It further serves as a working document, requiring ongoing revision in order to satisfy all the needs of the Ridgevale School Community.

We assume that Parents have taught their children self-respect, as well as respect for all other people irrespective of race, colour, gender or religion. This will lay the foundation for a constructive partnership between Parents, Educators and Learners and promote Basic Human Rights as set out in the **Constitution of the Republic of South Africa**.

DISCIPLINE WITHIN THE CODE OF CONDUCT

1. No Educator may administer corporal punishment to a learner.
2. Corrective discipline will be applied where behaviour is deemed to be inappropriate or unacceptable. This, however, will always be done with a **positive aim**:
 - **To modify negative behaviour;**
 - **To prevent further infringement;**
 - **To learn from mistakes;**
 - **To accept responsibility; and**
 - **To be accountable.**

3. All offences will be recorded in a **Discipline File**. This file will be updated by the Educators and controlled regularly by the Grade Heads and HOD.
4. During disciplinary procedures, Educators will endeavour to be fair, unbiased and consistent, in accordance with this **Code of Conduct**.
5. This Code of Conduct applies wherever a learner may be associated with Ridgevale Primary School and **not only** during school hours, on school property or in school uniform. (As per Provincial Gazette, 4th October 2000)
6. Educators will endeavour to focus on **Positive Behaviour** through the use of a **Merit System**.