



Applecross Primary School

Good Standing Policy

In 2023, a directive was published by the Minister for Education on student behaviour and violence, “Standing Together against Violence”. Subsequent ‘Connect and Respect’ resources have been made public. The development of a Good Standing Policy is a mandatory requirement for all public schools in response to the increasing incidents of violence in schools.

At Applecross Primary we support a culture of respect and believe that all students have the right to feel safe, nurtured and supported at school. We have high behaviour expectations underpinned by positive interpersonal relationships.

Policy Review Date: March 2025

Principles

We believe that learning is enhanced in a welcoming, inclusive, and collaborative environment which emphasises the importance of students taking responsibility for the choices they make daily. These choices impact academically and socially on themselves and others.

The Good Standing Policy is part of, and works in conjunction with, the whole school Developing Positive Student Behaviour Policy. Applecross Primary School’s Good Standing Policy provides a framework for the community to help students meet the expected behaviours. Together we can help our students become outstanding members of society.

The process embedded within good standing requirements is underpinned by the following key principles of restorative practice:

- Positive interpersonal relationships are a major influence on behaviour.
- A culture of care supports all individuals in the school community.
- Cultural receptiveness and responsiveness is key to creating learning communities of mutual respect and inclusion.
- A restorative approach leads to individuals taking responsibility for their behaviour.

Applecross Primary School staff believe we all share a responsibility for providing a safe, supportive, and productive environment, free from bullying, harassment, discrimination and violence. It is vital that the school community builds a culture of positive behaviour that values students’ strengths, abilities, and diversity. Staff use a restorative approach that focuses on building a culture of positive behaviour and values the safety of all members of its community. The school aims to build student empathy and support self-regulation.

How Is Good Standing Maintained?

Good Standing is maintained by demonstrating our values and expectations in all activities and interactions. It is the responsibility of every student to maintain Good Standing in order to be included in extracurricular activities and events.

Loss of Good Standing

Loss of Good Standing will occur as a result of a series of behaviours that require intervention, or more serious breaches of the school's expectations. Loss of Good Standing occurs automatically following any form of violence or a suspension.

A suspension will occur if a student:

- Makes physical contact with the intent to cause harm to another student or a staff member.
- Threatens, intimidates, or verbally abuses other students or staff.
- Physical abuse of other students or staff.
- Videos a fight in the grounds of the school, or off-site where there is a reasonable nexus between the incident and the school, with the intent of publishing on social media;
- Engages in behaviour that is a serious breach of respect or safety:
- Is found vaping at school or with vaping paraphernalia;
- Is involved in the misuse of technology, including but not limited to engaging in cyberbullying and incorrect usage of an explicit nature;
- Is purposely damaging property;
- Is showing persistent defiance or refusal;
- Is disrupting the good order of the school.

Parent Contact Regarding Good Standing:

Parents/carers will be informed if a student is 'at risk' of losing Good Standing. Loss of Good Standing will involve a discussion with the student and their parent/carer to highlight the issues/incident that led to the loss of Good Standing.

Consequences of Loss of Good Standing

During the 10-day period (or period decided by the principal), the student will lose the ability to participate in extracurricular activities.

Extracurricular activities include, but are not limited to: incursions, excursions, class-based or whole-school reward activities, interschool events, special clubs, camps, P&C events, and other social activities as determined by the principal.

If a Year 6 Leader (ministry leader, captain etc) loses their Good Standing, they will lose the privilege to represent their school and complete their role until their Good Standing is regained.

Any decision to withdraw or maintain Good Standing will be at the discretion of the principal.

Note: Exceptions to these guidelines and processes may occur if there are extenuating circumstances impacting on a student's behaviour and wellbeing.