

## Student behaviour expectations at St Mary's College



It all starts with our values: Student behaviour at St. Mary's College is based upon teachers forming and maintaining good relationships with students so that we can teach and learn together. Relational practice permeates all aspects of our school organisation and covers relationships within the school as well as relationships between the school and its community. Our response to student behaviour is consistent with education's goals of supporting, teaching, and learning – not punishment, retribution, and exclusion. From the individual child's perspective, St. Mary's College is a social community, where every student belongs and where students' behavioural challenges are addressed through supportive educational interventions. From a whole school perspective, our relational practices aim to develop positive relationships and ensure the peaceful resolution of conflict for staff and students.<sup>1</sup> The SMC kete – our aspirational expectations are clear for students – see the chart below. If students are not already able to do this now, teachers work with students so they will be able to by the time they grow and leave St Mary's College (SMC) . Teachers will co-construct these behaviours with students in all of their classes.

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<sup>1</sup> Meyer & Evans, 2012

OUR EXPECTATIONS	All Settings	In the classroom(this includes the library and specialist teaching areas)	Around the College and at College events	In the Community (including online community)
<b>Strive to succeed</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow instructions</li> <li>Arrive on Time</li> <li>Bring correct equipment</li> <li>Plan ahead</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stay on task</li> <li>Complete homework</li> <li>Ask questions</li> <li>Meet assessment deadlines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participate in house events and Special Character events</li> <li>Commit to teams / groups</li> <li>Balance commitments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participate in Community Groups</li> <li>Access available resources</li> <li>Be a responsible digital citizen</li> </ul>
<b>Take the challenge</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Try new things</li> <li>Show Initiative</li> <li>Show resilience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Show Perseverance</li> <li>Think Critically</li> <li>Take Risks in Learning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take the Lead</li> <li>Enter external subject based competitions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be an ambassador for the school</li> </ul>
<b>Ako in action</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work cooperatively</li> <li>Use positive language and behaviour</li> <li>Contribute and encourage others to take part</li> <li>Be open and listen to others ideas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support and encourage others in their learning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Include others</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Display fair play</li> <li>Contribute to shared learning</li> </ul>
<b>Respect our values</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Respect differences</li> <li>Wear correct uniform</li> <li>Put rubbish in the correct bins</li> <li>Live the Mercy Values</li> <li>Be courteous to others</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keep the classroom tidy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect our environment</li> <li>Contribute to social justice organisations eg Vinnies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make sustainable choices</li> <li>Contribute to social justice initiatives</li> </ul>

Currently we are teaching students about the appropriate use of mobile phones in the classroom. Feedback from RTLB, teachers and students have told us mobile phone use in class is an issue. Research shows that a generation who have spent their entire adolescence with smartphones are feeling the effects, including negative impacts on their mental health – you may be interested in this clip [www.youtube.com/watch?v=pWvwXOIKHUI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pWvwXOIKHUI)

To address these issues teachers at SMC restrict the time students spend on their phones in class. Sometimes phones are OK in class and electronic devices can be an integral part of teaching and learning but the use of cell-phones should be restricted if they are not being used for the purpose of the lesson. The default position is phones should be out of sight at the start of the lesson - in the student's bag.

We have explained this issue to students why we are doing this; basically because we will have better teaching and learning and improved student wellbeing outcomes. We have explained to students what our initial and corrective strategies are now we informing our parent community about our restorative approach to the use of student mobile 'phones in class. Of course students may ask their teacher for permission to make an important call or text with their parents or caregiver at the teacher's discretion

We appreciate your support and hope that this information helps our parent community understand that student behaviour at St. Mary's College is based upon teachers forming and maintaining good relationships with students so that we can teach and learn together. Relational practice permeates all aspects of our school organisation and covers relationships within the school as well as relationships between the school and its community. If you have any questions about this please contact [peter.sanders@stmw.school.nz](mailto:peter.sanders@stmw.school.nz)