The Department’s Strategic Plan defines the following values.

- **Customer focus**: creating positive experiences for children, students, families, communities and industry through enabling choice, being responsive and providing inclusive services
- **Innovation**: recognising and cultivating innovation for better outcomes
- **High performance**: working efficiently and effectively, with high expectations of each other, our services and our students
- **Accountability**: promoting evidence-informed decision making, transparency and accountability
- **Our people**: developing and empowering our people through relationships based on trust, respect and valuing diversity.

**Principles**

The Code is underpinned by the following principles.

- State schools expect high standards of personal achievement and behaviour.
- The foundation of positive classroom behaviour is effective teaching, inclusive and engaging curriculum and respectful relationships between staff and students.
- Positive behaviour is enhanced through a whole school approach and effective school organisation and leadership.
- Partnerships with parents, the wider school community and other support agencies contribute to positive behaviour in schools.
- Staff expertise is valued and developed.
- Standards of expected student behaviour are linked to transparent, accountable and fair processes, interventions and consequences.
- Responses to inappropriate student behaviour must consider both the individual circumstances and actions of the student and the needs and rights of school community members.

The Code of School Behaviour defines the responsibilities that all members of the school community are expected to uphold and recognises the significance of appropriate and meaningful relationships.

It outlines a consistent standard of behaviour for all state school communities in Queensland, inclusive of students, staff and parents. The Code has been developed to deliver the best possible outcomes for students, recognising the close relationship between learning, achievement and behaviour.

School communities will use The Code as a basis for providing:

- positive support to promote high standards of achievement and behaviour
- clearly articulated responses and consequences for inappropriate behaviour.

Each school will detail particular strategies to promote appropriate behaviour as well as consequences for unacceptable behaviour within its Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students.

The Education (General Provisions) Act 2006 provides that principals must give an enrolment agreement to the student’s parents or adult or independent student, before enrolling a student. Parents or students will be asked to sign the agreement. This agreement sets out the rights and obligations of students, parents and staff at the school and will require all parties to abide by The Code of School Behaviour and other endorsed conditions stipulated by the school.
All members of school communities are expected to:
- conduct themselves in a lawful, ethical, safe and responsible manner that recognises and respects the rights of others.

Students are expected to:
- participate actively in the school’s education program
- take responsibility for their own behaviour and learning
- demonstrate respect for themselves, other members of the school community and the school environment
- behave in a manner that respects the rights of others, including the right to learn
- cooperate with staff and others in authority.

Parents are expected to:
- show an active interest in their child’s schooling and progress
- support school staff in maintaining a safe and respectful learning environment for all students
- initiate and maintain constructive communication and relationships with school staff regarding their child’s learning, wellbeing and behaviour
- contribute positively to behaviour support plans that concern their child.

Schools are expected to:
- provide safe and supportive learning environments
- provide inclusive and engaging curriculum and teaching
- initiate and maintain constructive communication and relationships with students and parents
- promote the skills of responsible self-management.

Regional Directors or delegate are expected to:
- exercise leadership in support of school principals’ responsibilities under The Code and promote improvement of the professional skills of principals accordingly.

Senior Officers of the Department of Education, Training and Employment are expected to:
- determine policy directions and monitor the efficiency and effectiveness of resource allocations and services to support responsible behaviour throughout Queensland schools.

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Students who do not comply with the expected standards are not acceptable. The Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students will set out the range and level of responses and consequences for student behaviour that is not consistent with these standards.

Consequences are to be applied to:
- provide the opportunity for all students to learn
- ensure the safety of staff and students
- assist students who exhibit challenging behaviours to accept responsibility for themselves and their actions.

In applying consequences for unacceptable student behaviour, the individual circumstances and actions of the student and the needs and rights of school community members will be considered at all times.

Schools use a range of consequences that are authorised by the Department of Education, Training and Employment, which include:
- detentions, including detention on a non-school day
- Discipline Improvement Plans
- Community Service Interventions
- suspensions
- exclusions
- cancellations of enrolment.

These consequences are to be used as the last resort for serious behaviour after consideration has been given to all other responses. Access to alternative programs and input from other agencies may be necessary for students who repeatedly do not comply with expected standards of behaviour.