

St Thomas More Catholic Primary School

Parent Charter

St Thomas More CPS has a Code of Conduct that everyone involved with the school should follow. This Parent Charter provides statements which assist parents become more aware of their obligations as a member of the St Thomas More Catholic Primary School Community giving examples of how to follow the Code of Conduct and provides advice on appropriate behaviours that should be modelled to others at our school. We recognize that parents are the primary educators and care givers of their children. We appreciate the involvement of parents within our school community and the contribution each parent makes.

As integral members of our Catholic School Community, parents should:

Value and respect the Catholic identity of our school with its rituals, traditions, symbols and beliefs.

- We are a Catholic school.
- Parents who choose to send their children to our school do so with the expectation they will participate in Catholic practices and learn the teachings of our Catholic faith.
- Parents should act as role models by reflecting the values and ethos of our school.

Support children in all educational endeavours both at school and at home.

- Help children to discover that it is often the process that is experienced rather than the end product that makes it all worthwhile; that giving of your very best is what matters rather than comparing against what others can do.
- Having children at school for the commencement of the day is important to their self-esteem and shows an interest in their learning.

Support St Thomas More Catholic Primary School and the bodies who represent the families of our school.

- Actively contribute to the life of the school through parent bodies (eg supporting P & F, respecting Board decisions).
- Parent skills and experience that is volunteered at school permits the students a greater opportunity to participate in learning programs that allow the development of a range of skills and knowledge.
- Have confidence in the professionalism, skills, knowledge and experience of the staff and allow them to effectively do their job.
- Fulfil obligations to pay all fees and levies in a timely manner and seek advice from the Principal should financial difficulties occur.

Contribute to the development of a safe school environment.

- Work collaboratively with the staff of the school whilst advocating for your children in a positive and respectful way
- Under no circumstances is a parent to approach another child while they are in the care of the school to discuss or chastise them because of their actions.
- Inform staff members where intimidation, bullying or harassment occurs, as it is not tolerated.
- Support the Whole School Behaviour Management plan.

Contribute to a welcoming and inclusive community based on the Christian values of respect, love and courtesy.

- Treat every member of the school community with courtesy and respect. Speak about others as if they were standing there with you.
- Listen, talk collaboratively and share relevant information with teachers and the school staff to understand and resolve any issues, misunderstandings or concerns.
- Approach the classroom teacher should an issue arise with your child. If a resolution is not reached, then it is appropriate to involve the Leadership Team. If parents remain dissatisfied with the result, then a formal complaint can be made or the matter can be referred to the Director, Catholic Education WA.
- Value and respect the diversity of different cultures within the school community.
- Confidentiality is of prime concern. Parents and volunteers should not discuss any information they obtain at school with anybody, other than the classroom teacher or school Leadership Team.

Use Social Media appropriately and responsibly.

- Negative comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parents/staff members at the school, on social media sites (eg Facebook, Instagram, Twitter etc) should not occur. Any concerns you may have about the school must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher or a member of the Leadership Team, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

Respect and support school policies and procedures.

- All policies and procedures are put in place to ensure the safety of the students and allow for optimum learning and best practice to occur.
- Be patient. Teachers are busy teaching your children. They cannot take phone calls or answer emails immediately.

*In this Parent Charter, the term 'parent' includes carers and legal guardians

*Should parents choose to consistently or deliberately not follow the guidelines set out in the Code of Conduct, they may be excluded from the school premises.