

# **Thornlands State School**

# Student Code of Conduct 2021-2025

# Every student succeeding

Every student succeeding is the shared vision of Queensland state schools. Our vision shapes regional and school planning to ensure every student receives the support needed to belong to the school community, engage purposefully in learning and experience academic success.

Queensland Department of Education State Schools Strategy 2020-2024

# **Contact Information**

| Postal address:         | Cnr Panorma and South Streets   |  |  |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Phone                   | 3821 8111                       |  |  |
| Email                   | admin@thornlandsss.eq.edu.au    |  |  |
| School website address: | https://thornlandsss.eq.edu.au/ |  |  |
| Contact Person:         | Robyn Wilton (Principal)        |  |  |

# Endorsement

| Principal Name:      | Robyn Wilton         |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Principal Signature: | Wilton               |
| Date:                | November 2020        |
| P/C President Name:  | Vicki Topping Topp G |
| Date:                | November 2020        |

# Contents

| Purpos  | se   | 3  |
|---------|--|----|
| Whole   | School Approach to Discipline                      | 4  |
| •       | Consideration of Individual Circumstances          | 7  |
| •       | Differentiated and Explicit Teaching               | 8  |
| •       | Focussed Teaching                                  | 14 |
| •       | Intensive Teaching                                 | 14 |
| Discip  | linary Consequences                                | 18 |
| Schoo   | l Policies   | 29 |
| •       | Temporary removal of student property              | 30 |
| •       | Use of mobile phones and other devices by students | 32 |
| •       | Preventing and responding to bullying              | 33 |
| •       | Appropriate use of social media                    | 39 |
| Restric | ctive Practices                                    | 40 |
| Critica | I Incidents  | 42 |
| Appen   | dices  | 44 |



### **Purpose**

At Thornlands State School, programs focus upon ensuring that each student is a motivated, respectful, resilient, life-long learner who is able to be responsible for their own behaviour and achieve their potential. The school environment is structured to be supportive, tolerant and safe and to promote effective teaching and learning. Mutual respect is fostered among all members of the community with shared responsibilities and shared values being promoted. The encouragement of positive relationships between all stakeholders allows them to work together and build a strong, vibrant community. At Thornlands State School, there are consistent processes, focussed professional development and resourcing for behaviour management. These processes, expectations and programs are based on the <u>Student Discipline Procedure</u>. All members of the school community are to abide by *The Student Discipline Procedure*. This plan will be communicated to the community via meetings, the school website, upon request through the school administration and during the enrolment process.



# Whole School Approach to Discipline

At Thornlands, our focus is on development of the whole child. This is accomplished in a teaching – learning environment where positive behaviour is encouraged and facilitated and children **develop self-responsibility**. This is supported by the explicit teaching of the Thornlands State School Social and Emotional Skills Program (P-6).

#### SCHOOL BELIEFS ABOUT BEHAVIOUR AND LEARNING

- All members of the school community feel supported, respected, valued and safe.
- The educational potential for students and teachers is developed and maximised in an environment where teaching and learning are valued.
- All areas of the school are teaching and learning environments.
- Students are encouraged to make positive choices about their behaviour and demonstrate selfresponsibility while acknowledging the rights of others.
- School strategies for supporting behaviour and learning involve a planned continuum from Affirming to Preventative to Corrective to Crisis Plan.
- Developed rules, routines and practices cater for the needs of the community and enhance school tone.
- Positive non-discriminatory and non-punitive are modelled and reinforced by all members of the community.
- Effective partnerships between home, school and community optimise learning opportunities for students.
- At Thornlands State School the three School Rules promote and teach high expectations of behaviour. The rules are:

As a Learner, I will:

- 1. Be Safe
- 2. Be Respectful
- 3. Be Responsible

Our school rules have been agreed upon and endorsed by all staff, students and our school P&C. They are aligned with the values, principles and expected standards outlined in the Department of Education's Student Discipline Procedure.



#### RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES AT THORNLANDS STATE SCHOOL

#### Teacher rights:

- Each teacher has the right to be treated with respect.
- Each teacher has the right to be able to teach without undue disruption.
- Each teacher has the right to expect that they are in charge in a class and that they will be obeyed.

#### Student Rights:

- Each student has the right to be treated with respect.
- Each student has the right to learn without disruption.
- Each student has the right to learn in a safe and caring environment.

#### Student Responsibilities:

#### All students have a responsibility to:

- Allow others to work without being disrupted.
- · Obey school rules and guidelines.
- Treat others with courtesy and consideration.
- Co-operate with other students, teachers and student teachers and show common sense.
- Take care of property. This implies:
  - Leaving other people's property alone
  - Using school property with care and respect.
- Show pride in school grounds, buildings and uniform.
- Complete homework and projects by the due date.
- Complete all school work to the best of their ability.
- Attend school every day being punctual and on time for all classes.
- Practise good personal habits in health and cleanliness.
- Enable good communication between school and home. This means that students will deliver home all messages, newsletters etc.
- Uphold the good name of the school. This means:
  - o That students wear their uniform with pride.
  - o That students will treat members of the public with courtesy and respect.
  - o That students will represent their school well when in and out of school.



#### Consideration of Individual Circumstances

To ensure alignment with the Department of Education Discipline Proceedure when applying consequences, the individual circumstances and actions of the student and the needs and rights of school community members are considered at all times.

Thornlands State School considers the individual circumstances of students when applying support and consequences by:

- promoting an environment which is responsive to the diverse needs of its students
- establishing procedures for applying fair, equitable and non violent consequences for infringement of the code ranging from the least intrusive sanctions to the most stringent
- recognising and taking into account students' age, gender, disability, cultural background, socioeconomic situation and their emotional state
- recognising the rights of all students to:
  - o express opinions in an appropriate manner and at the appropriate time
  - o work and learn in a safe environment regardless of their age, gender, disability, cultural background or socio-economic situation, and
  - o receive adjustments appropriate to their learning and/or impairment needs

#### **Network of support**

Students at Thornlands State School are supported through positive reinforcement and a system of universal, targeted, and intensive behaviour supports by:

- Parents
- Teachers
- SNAC Team and Support Staff
- Head of Curriculum
- Administration Staff
- Guidance Officer
- Advisory Visiting Teachers
- MYCP Staff
- Positive Learning Centre Staff
- Senior Guidance Officer
- Regional Office Staff
- School Chaplain
- Thornlands State School Adopt-a-Cop
- School Based Police Officer at CDSHS
- School based Nurse at Redlands District Special School

Support is also available through the following government and community agencies:

- Disability Services Queensland
- Child and Youth Mental Health Services
- Queensland Health
- Department of Communities (Child Safety Services)
- Yulu Burri Ba
- Intensive Family Support (IFS Benevolent Society)
- Bravehearts
- Police
- Local Council
- Autism QLD



# Differentiated and Explicit Teaching

At Thornlands State School behaviour support ranges from positive preventative action for all students, through to intensive intervention for specific individuals or groups, as required.

At Thornlands State School, positive behaviour is a primary focus in every classroom. The behavioural expectations are communicated at whole school assemblies and this is then followed up in classrooms. Parents are encouraged to attend all assemblies and special days.

Teachers (both new and existing) regularly engage in Professional Development in Behaviour Management Strategies which are employed in classrooms to maintain positive, on-task behaviour. They are also inducted in the Preventing and Responding to Bullying Policy (Page 33).

A Whole School Positive Behaviour Reinforcement System is utilised with a reward system. (See Appendix 1)

Strategies have been selected to encourage self-discipline in the child and effective behaviour management for the teacher.

| PROACTIVE AND PREVENTATIVE PROCESSES         |   | STRATEGIES (to encourage self- responsibility)  |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| Recognising and Affirming Positive Behaviour | <ul> <li>Student of the Week certificates</li> <li>Rewarding with letters or phone calls to parents and visits to another teacher or administration for commendation</li> <li>Classroom rewards for positive behaviour</li> <li>Values and Social Skills Training</li> <li>Leadership Opportunities</li> <li>Self Esteem Activities</li> <li>Assemblies</li> <li>Student Council</li> <li>Reaffirming with body language and verbal encouragement</li> <li>Safe, supportive classrooms</li> <li>Report Card Comments</li> </ul> | Explicit teaching of rules and expectations Classroom reward systems Gotchas Gold and Silver Behaviour Level certificates |  |
|  | Ensuring new students have a class buddy and are aware of school  |   |  |

|                             | rules.  |   |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| Preventative                | Establish Class and School Rules  |   |
|                             | Whole School Values and Social<br>Skills Program  |   |
|                             | Clear, fair, positive rules that are explicitly taught (see Behaviour Matrix)                     |   |
|                             | Well defined and practised routines and procedures  |   |
|                             | Interesting and Challenging Classrooms  |   |
|                             | Positive Relationship Established with Class  |   |
|                             | Efficient Management Techniques     Verbal Encouragement  |   |
|                             | Well planned and motivating<br>Curriculum Programs which are<br>differentiated to cater for needs |   |
|                             | • IEPs  |   |
|                             | Professional Development  |   |
|                             | Induction Program for new staff   |   |
|                             | Non-verbal Visual Reminders   |   |
|                             |   |   |
| Corrective                  | Redirection   | Directional Language – keep directions and reminders brief and positive   |
| (least intrusive            | Rule Reminders  | Rule Reminders – simple, firm eye contact, use humour   |
| to most<br>intrusive – Bill | Choices   | Choice – can defuse a situation Use of christian name, pause and direction                                      |
| Rogers)                     | Clear Consequences  | Use of 'please and thanks' with direction and take up time, communicating an expectation of                     |
|                             | Cool-off time (COT Corner)  | compliance  Tactical Ignoring - Ignore (15 secs) - Prompt -   |
|                             | Buddy class   | Redirect Parallel praise - Ask questions Soft   |
|                             | Support Personnel, AVTs   | reprimand Terminating Instructions  |
|                             | Administration Involvement  | Non-verbal signals Re-stating Instructions  |
|                             | Time Out (maximum 20 min)   | Take Up Time (TUT) - give child time to carry out request   |
|                             | Alternative Programs  | <b>Tone</b> - Effectiveness and positiveness of voice <b>Assertion</b> - communicate in a clear, non-aggressive |
|                             | Problem Solving   | manner.  Broken Record - a verbal strategy that uses same or similar words repeatedly.                          |
|                             | Contracts   | Distraction and Diversion - refocus of the attention.   |

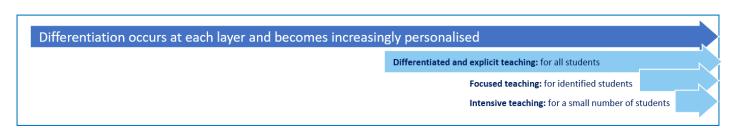
|             | <ul> <li>Counselling</li> <li>Classroom re-entry procedure</li> <li>Individual Behaviour Plans</li> <li>Suspension -with re-entry meeting involving student, parent, classroom teacher and Administration.</li> <li>Exclusion</li> <li>Parent Involvement</li> <li>Thornlands Behaviour Levels</li> </ul> | Partial Agreement - acknowledges what child is saying but the emphasis is on what the child should be doing  Look at the big picture - as appropriately as possible using "I" statements  WhenDirection  Questions and Feedback (not 'Why are you doing that?' but 'What are you doing?')  Privately Understood Signals (PUS) wink, nod, frown, stare, four fingers in hand (four chair legs on the floor) and non verbal behaviour – reminders and reinforcers.  Positional Stance (front/centre of classroom – maybe writing on board)  Body Posture (use an open hand not pointing finger, relaxed allow space  Eye contact – engages attention (too much may precipitate hostility)  Directional Touch – brief and combined with reminder or praise  Cool Off Time – may diffuse situation, calm self before dealing with the situation  Conscious eye scanning (effective when tactically ignoring), 'On Task' praise  Movement/ Proximity Awareness respect for a student's spatial area  Make consequences clear – linked to rules where possible – firmly, fairly and calmly implemented  Time Away Area – designated area |
|-------------|---|--|
| Crisis Plan | Awareness of background factors   |  |
|             | Data Collection   |  |
|             | Crisis communication Techniques   |  |
|             | Praise for good choice  |  |
|             | Harm Reduction Strategies   |  |
|             | Evasion Strategies  |  |
|             | Seek Assistance   |  |
|             | Restitution   |  |
|             | Problem Solving   |  |
|             | Defusing Techniques for class   |  |
|             | Reviewing Plan  |  |
|             | Monitoring  |  |
|             | Staff Training  |  |
|             | Debriefing  |  |
|             | Parent contact  |  |
|             | Guidance Officer  |  |

| Special Needs Committee |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| Suspension / Exclusion  |  |

Our expectations for behaviour in all school settings are outlined in the following 'Matrix of Behaviour Expectations'. The School Rules and the Matrix of Behaviour Expectations is displayed in every classroom.

The rules in various contexts are explicitly taught according to the whole school 'Order of Lessons' resulting in a 'focus of the week' (see Appendix 2). This order is flexible and may be adjusted by Administration or the Supportive School Environment Team in response to data indicating a need for a specific focus at any given time. The weekly focus is reinforced each week during the whole school assembly. This enables teachers to purposefully plan relevant and targeted lessons that are adjusted for the learning needs of the students.

There are three main layers to differentiation, as illustrated in the diagram below. This model is the same used for academic and pedagogical differentiation.



These three layers map directly to the tiered approach discussed earlier in the Learning and Behaviour section. For example, in our Supportive School Environment (SSE) framework, Tier 1 is differentiated and explicit teaching for all students, Tier 2 is focussed teaching for identified students and Tier 3 is intensive teaching for a small number of students. Each layer provides progressively more personalised supports for students.

Every classroom in our school uses the **Supportive School Environment (SSE)** Expectations Matrix, illustrated below, as a basis for developing lessons. Using this matrix, the class teacher works with all students to explain exactly what each of the expectations look, sound and feel like in their classroom. The matrix is on display in every classroom and used as the basis of teaching expectations throughout the year and revisited and reinforced regularly to address any new or emerging issues.





#### Thornlands SS. As a Learner I will: Re Safe Re Respectful Re Responsible

| All Settings   | Excursions / Out of<br>School   | Computers / Cyber Safety/Mobile Devices  | Sunsmart / Uniform  |
|--|---|--|---|
| Follow adult directions immediately Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself Always show respect and use appropriate, positive language Respect the property of others   | <ul> <li>Be organised with your belongings</li> <li>Follow all adult instructions</li> <li>Listen carefully at all times</li> <li>Cooperate and be considerate of others</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Only say positive things</li> <li>Use appropriate websites only</li> <li>Keep log on details to yourself</li> <li>Communicate only with people you know</li> <li>Only copy information with permission</li> <li>Follow school policy on mobile devices at school</li> <li>Mobile communication devices only to be used outside school grounds</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Wear full school uniform</li> <li>Take pride in your appearance</li> <li>Stay in your eating area if you don't have a hat</li> <li>Look after your property</li> <li>Wear closed in school shoes</li> <li>Wear appropriate, sun safe clothes of free dress days</li> <li>Wear approved jewellery only (egwatch, sleepers, studs)</li> </ul>                                  |
| Before School / After School   | Inside Classrooms   | Transitions (Moving Around) / Walkways   | Playground and Undercover areas   |
| Sit quietly under A Block in the morning Walk on hard surfaces Use good manners Listen carefully to messages Cross the road at the crossing Stay off the playgrounds Wait in the right place Go to the office if your parents are late to pick you up Wear a helmet if you ride to school Walk your bike/scooter when in the school grounds and give way to pedestrian | <ul> <li>Put your hand up to speak</li> <li>Be a good listener</li> <li>Be organised with your belongings</li> <li>Sit correctly at your desk</li> <li>Keep the room tidy</li> <li>Put in your best effort</li> <li>Use equipment safely</li> <li>Cooperate in groups</li> <li>Ask permission to leave the room</li> <li>Follow lockdown and fire procedures</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Use a quiet voice</li> <li>Be organised in two straight lines</li> <li>Follow the leaders sensibly</li> <li>Walk at all times</li> <li>Stay on the paths or walkways</li> <li>Keep to the left</li> <li>Go directly to the destination</li> <li>Walk on the stairs, taking one step at a time</li> <li>Enter and exit rooms quietly</li> <li>Walk your bike/scooter when in the school grounds</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Use equipment appropriately</li> <li>Take turns and share equipment</li> <li>Play safely with balls</li> <li>Keep the area tidy</li> <li>Wear a sunsafe hat</li> <li>Stay in your designated area</li> <li>Cooperate and be considerate</li> <li>Care for the plants and gardens</li> <li>Walk away from minor issues</li> <li>Stop play as soon as the bell goes</li> </ul> |



#### On the Oval

- Wear a sunsafe hat
- Show courtesy and consideration
- Play sensibly and fairly
- Ask permission to leave the grounds
- Leave sticks and stones on the ground
- Take turns and share equipment
- Walk away from minor issues
- Stop play as soon as the bell goes

#### **Eating Time**

- Put rubbish in the bin
- Sit down while you eat
- Eat your own food only
- Use good manners
- Talk quietly
- Wait to be dismissed from your eating area.
- Look after your belongings
- Ask permission to leave the area
- Respect differences and diversity
- Use the bubblers appropriately

#### **Toilets**

- Keep toilets clean and tidy
- Use toilets appropriately
- Respect others' privacy
- Wash your hands before you leave
- Close doors carefully
- Flush the toilet
- Use taps sensibly and turn them off when you are finished
- Keep food out of the toilets

#### Tuckshop

- Use good manners please and thank you
- Stand quietly and patiently in line
- Stay off the railings
- Walk carefully with food and drinks
- Return to your eating area
- Return tuckshop baskets to the right area



#### **Focused Teaching**

Approximately 15% of all students in any school or classroom may require additional support to meet behaviour expectations, even after being provided with differentiated and explicit teaching. These students may have difficulty meeting behavioural expectations in a particular period of the day or as part of a learning area/subject, and focused teaching is provided to help them achieve success.

Focused teaching involves revisiting key behavioural concepts and/or skills and using explicit and structured teaching strategies in particular aspects of a behaviour skill. Focused teaching provides students with more opportunities to practise skills and multiple opportunities to achieve the intended learning and expected behaviour.

Support staff, including teachers and teacher aides with specialist expertise in learning and working with students with additional needs, work collaboratively with class teachers at Thornlands State School to provide focused teaching. Focused teaching is aligned to the SSE Expectations Matrix and Social Skills Programs, and student progress is monitored by the classroom teacher/s to identify those who:

- no longer require the additional support
- require ongoing focussed teaching
- require intensive teaching.

Thornlands State School has a range of staff in place to help arrange and deliver focused teaching to students who need more support to meet expectations. In addition, the school invests in the following evidence-informed programs to address specific skill development for some students:

- Zones of Regulation
- Growth Mindset and Mindfullness

#### **Intensive Teaching**

Research evidence shows that even in an effective, well-functioning school there will always be approximately 5% of the student population who require intensive teaching to achieve behavioural expectations. Intensive teaching involves frequent and explicit instruction, with individuals or in small groups, to develop mastery of basic behavioural concepts, skills and knowledge.

Some students may require intensive teaching for a short period, for particular behaviour skills. Other students may require intensive teaching for a more prolonged period. Decisions about the approach will be made based on data collected from their teacher or teachers, and following consultation with the student's family.

For a small number of students who continue to display behaviours that are deemed complex and challenging, then individualised, function-based behaviour assessment and support plans and multi-agency collaboration may be provided to support the student. This approach will seek to address the acute impact of barriers to learning and participation faced by students who are negotiating a number of complex personal issues.

Students who require intensive teaching will be assigned an individual mentor/ case manager at the school that will oversee the coordination of their program, communicate with stakeholders and directly consult with the student.



#### **Student Wellbeing**

Growing the Whole Child is the focus at Thornlands State School and our Student Learning and Wellbeing Framework outlines the way student wellbeing is enhanced through a variety of programs and initiatives. All staff at Thornlands State School understand that learning and wellbeing are inextricably linked – students learn best when their wellbeing is optimised, and they develop a strong sense of wellbeing when they experience success in learning. The Department of Education student learning and wellbeing framework supports state schools with creating positive school cultures and embedding student wellbeing in all aspects of school life through connecting the learning environment, curriculum and pedagogy, policies, procedures and partnerships for learning and life.

#### **Curriculum and Pedagogy**

Schools build the foundations for wellbeing and lifelong learning through curriculum embedding personal and social capabilities (self awareness, self management, social awareness and social management) in the implementation of the P-12 Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Framework

Schools acknowledge the positive impact that a meaningful relationship between teacher and students can have on students' academic and social outcomes. As part of the whole school's curriculum at Thornands State School, all student participate in Social and Emotional Skills (SSE) lessons.



# Thornlands State School Student Learning and Wellbeing Framework

Wellbeing is a state in which every individual realises his or her potential, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully and is able to make a contribution to his or her community.

- World Health Organisation, 2014



- Whole school approach to Student Wellbeing
- Make explicit links between learning and wellbeing
- Explicit teaching of School Rules and Social and Emotional Skills
  - Zones of Regulation
  - Bucket Filling and Ant-- bullying lessons
  - Adopt a Cop safety lessons and messages
  - Daniel Morcombe Lessons
  - Growth Mindset Year 3 Year 6

Early

Identification

and

Intervention

- Social Skills Groups (small group)
- Behaviour Monitoring and support (Check in Check Out process)

# Wellbeing – measuring success

Thornlands State School monitors school culture and student wellbeing and engagement through:

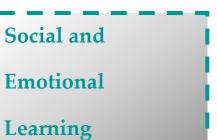
- Attendance rates
- Student retention data
- Learning days lost due to student disciplinary absences
- School Opinion Survey responses
- Level of Achievement data
- Behaviour data
- Diagnostic Assessment data

#### **INTENSIVE**

Intensive intervention, eengagement, response and recovery

- Supported play
- Movie and Computer Club
- IBMP and Safety Plan
- Suicide Prevention and Responding to Critical Incidents (NIPR Notice, Inquire, Plan and Respond)





# Wellbeing – our approach

# Psychological

#### Teachers

Providing inclusive learning environments that support every student to manage their wellbeing and achieve success

Personal

#### School leaders

Creating a whole school approach that provides the right conditions to achieve excellence and lift learning outcomes



#### : School community

Strengthening connections with parents, support services and the wider community

#### **Positive Engagement**

Growth Mindset Theory, Character Strengths

... flow, good conversation, music, writing clubs, gardening, sports & training, the arts

#### **Positive Emotions**

Mindfulness – embedded in curriculum

WWW - What went well?



**Positive Relationships** 

Purpose and meaning/laughter, joy, teamwork, high quality connections, cooperation, compassion and kindness



Developing sustainable habits for optimum physical health eg exercise, nutrition, sleep.

#### **Positive Accomplishments**

Achieve meaningful outcomes . . .

Sport, hobbies, school, work

#### **Positive Meaning**

Belonging to and serving something bigger than the self. Volunteering, social causes, community engagement.

| SOCIAL / COGNITIVE   | COGNITIVE  | PERSONAL  | PSYCHOLOGICAL   | PHYSICAL  |
|--|--|---|---|---|
| <ul> <li>Supportive School Environment (SSE) lessons</li> <li>Social Emotional Skills (SES) lessons</li> <li>Zones of Regulation</li> <li>Bucket Filling</li> <li>Anti-Bullying Lessons</li> <li>Adopt a Cop</li> <li>NAIDOC</li> <li>Lunchtime Clubs</li> </ul> | <ul><li> Growth Mindset</li><li> Zones of Regulation</li></ul> | <ul> <li>Zones of Regulation</li> <li>Growth Mindset</li> <li>Daniel Morcombe lessons</li> <li>Cybersafety lessons</li> <li>Adopt a Cop</li> <li>Bravehearts program</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Growth Mindset</li> <li>Mindfulness</li> <li>Brain Breaks</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>HPE Curriculum</li> <li>Sports Days</li> <li>NAIDOC Activities</li> <li>Cluster Sports</li> <li>Mindfulness Activities</li> <li>Brain Break</li> </ul> |

## **Disciplinary Consequences**

Thornlands State School makes systematic efforts to prevent problem student behaviour by teaching and reinforcing expected behaviours on an ongoing basis. When unacceptable behaviour occurs, students experience predictable consequences.

Positive behaviours gain positive consequences while inappropriate behaviours result in negative consequences. Consequences are developed with the children to promote ownership and awareness of responsibility. All inappropriate behaviours have natural or logical consequences.

To promote ownership and awareness of responsibility classroom consequences should be developed in the classroom with the students. Each teacher sends their Classroom Behaviour Management Plan (including positive and negative consequences) home to parents at the beginning of the year (see Appendix 3).

All students need guidance when discussing consequences to ensure they are logical and appropriate. To be effective, consequences need to be seen as fair and just. Most logical consequences are used to avoid unsafe natural consequences.

The circumstances surrounding a particular incident are always taken into consideration when recommending consequences that are delivered fairly and consistently using the **Responsible Thinking Process Questions** (see Appendix 4)

#### Minor and major behaviours

When responding to problem behaviour the staff member first determines if the problem behaviour is major or minor, with the following agreed understanding:

- Minor problem behaviour is handled by staff members at the time it happens
- Major problem behaviour requires escalation to the next step in the process.

#### **Minor** behaviours are those that:

- are minor breeches of the school rules
- do not seriously harm others or cause you to suspect that the student may be harmed
- do not violate the rights of others in any other serious way
- are not part of a pattern of problem behaviours
- do not require escalation to the next step in the process.

#### **Responsible Thinking questions (Ed Ford)**

When problem behaviours are identified the student will be asked the following questions:

- What are you doing?
- What are the rules?
- What happens when you break the rules?
- Is that what you want to happen?
- What are you going to do now?

The following consequences are recommended for non-productive behaviours demonstrated by students:



#### **Guidelines for Managing Breaches of Student Code of Conduct**

#### **Minor Inappropriate Behaviours**

#### **Possible Consequences**

#### **Occasional Reminder or Support by Teacher**

#### Responsible Thinking Questions

What are you doing?

What are the rules?

What happens when you break the rules?

Is that what you want to happen?

What are you going to do now?

#### **Prohibited items**

• Bringing inappropriate items to school e.g. toys e.g. cars, dolls, cards etc.

#### Non-compliant with routine

- Walking around while eating or drinking
- No hat
- Non-work related chat –occasionally
- Arriving late for class (between sessions or after lunch breaks)
- Low level off-task or disruptive behaviours
- Not following instructions
- Wandering around classroom
- · Out of bounds- in school
- Littering
- Copying others' work
- Riding scooter, bike etc in school grounds

#### **Physical Misconduct**

- Not keeping hands and feet to self (rough play)
- Interfering with other's games

#### **Verbal Misconduct**

 Non-threatening/non directed inappropriate verbal or gestural messages used within conversation unintentionally

#### **IT Misconduct**

- Off task behaviour e.g. looking at child-friendly but incorrect web-sites/ playing games, emailing a friend, taking and/or sending photos, recordings
- Low level misconduct e.g. too rough with keyboard, carrying lap-top with one hand or using someone else's, turning off monitor, changing language of keyboard

#### Other

Throwing an acceptable object without care

Persistency (3 times) of any of the above behaviours would be classed as Major

Natural or logical consequences (used in conjunction with Responsible Thinking Questions)

- Reminder by teacher
- Name recorded
- X added or name moved along chart
- TAA/ COT in class
- TAA in the playground
- Community service (eg picking up litter)
- Make up time
- Consider seating plan
- Walk with teacher
- Counselling by teacher
- Parent contact informal or formal after 3<sup>rd</sup> breach
- Teacher judgement required about other minor infringements that may occur
- These minor behaviours if dealt with appropriately as above and no evident improvement becomes a Major Behaviour.

#### N.B.

 Consequences should be developmentally appropriate and context specific



#### **Major** behaviours are those that:

- significantly violate the rights of others
- put others / self at risk of harm
- require the involvement of school Administration.

The focus at Thornlands State School is always on proactive, preventive whole school approaches to a safe and supportive learning environment however, certain types of behaviour are unacceptable and possible consequences may require the most stringent step of exclusion. This consequence would only be used after consideration has been given to all other responses and the unique circumstances of the situation have been considered. For example, students involved in selling or supplying drugs, violent assaults or use of weapons could expect a proposal for exclusion.

Suspension and exclusion are options for addressing serious behaviour difficulties. Students who are demonstrating persistent or dangerous inappropriate major behaviours may be suspended for up to 5 days. Students demonstrating persistent or extreme behaviours may be suspended for up to 20 days.

Not following the school uniform code may also result in missing playtime, removal from representative activities and excursions. Staff may choose to provide other options e.g. use of 2<sup>nd</sup> hand uniforms.

Modified programs may be considered only after consultation with family/carer. This would usually be of a short term duration to build success for the student and to provide opportunities to design specific interventions to support the student.



#### **Major Behaviours Possible Consequences Responsible Thinking Questions** What are you doing? What are the rules? Managed by the Teacher with Possible Administration **Support** What happens when you break the rules? Is that what you want to happen? What are you going to do now? Persistent and Repeated Minor Behaviours Natural or logical consequences (used in **Verbal Misconduct** conjunction with Responsible Thinking Questions) Verbal disrespect to staff and students, insolence, inappropriate language, defiance, argumentative Name moved along chart Non-compliant with routine Natural or logical consequences e.g. toys Deliberate damage to classroom and student materials e.g. breaking confiscated until the end of the pencils, ripping school work/ posters TAA / COT (classroom) Leaving or failing to return to class - hiding in toilets, gardens etc **Buddy Class Physical Misconduct** Make up time Aggressive during play, fighting or encouraging others to fight Consider seating plan in **Bullying/ harassment** classroom Ongoing bullying (physical, verbal, persistent teasing, exclusion, • Walk with teacher visual, spreading rumours) Teacher counselling Delivering disrespectful messages (electronically, verbally or Teacher completes One gestural) to another person that includes threats, intimidation, School referral obscene language etc. Student completes reflection sheet which is sent home **IT Misconduct** Parent contact informal or Damage to and vandalism of equipment formal after 3rd breach Using mobile phone/ communication device during school time Time Out Room (playground) Misuse of Electronic Devices Supervised Play Inappropriate use of equipment eg. (shining laser in another's eyes) Violation of ICT agreement Other N.B. Refusal to follow goals and process as outlined in Communication Consequences should be developmentally appropriate Unacceptable moral behaviour – stealing, eg urinating in public and context specific Vandalism/ deliberate damage to school property Wilful disobedience, repeated non-compliance with no desire to



change despite supports and interventions

#### Immediate Referral to Administration

#### **Verbal Misconduct**

 Threatening/aggressive verbal abuse or gestural interactions directed at staff or students e.g. abusive language and threats.

#### **Truancy/Skipping Class**

Leaving school grounds without permission

#### Threat/s to other

 Sexual, emotional abuse (racial, religious or sexual vilification) directed at a staff member or student

#### **Bullying/ harassment**

 Severe bullying (e.g. physical, verbal or online intimidation, abuse or threats)

#### Prohibited Items/ Illicit and banned substances and items

- Association with, possession of, use on school premises or related school activity of banned or unlawful substances/ items (including medication without appropriate permissions/procedure)
- Smoking (possession of smoking materials, in company of smokers, caught in the act of smoking)
- Possession and/or use of objects which could be considered or used as a weapon eg. knife (any type including pocket knife), lasers etc.

#### Physical misconduct

- Intentional physical aggression/abuse towards staff and students (punching, hitting, kicking, biting, hair-pulling, scratching etc)
- Inappropriate sexual contact (consensual and non-consensual)

# Other conduct prejudicial to the good order and management of the school

- Dangerous behaviour climbing on roof/ port racks, walkways, toilets
- Public conduct that causes disruption to school management and routines (e.g. Facebook bullying or inappropriate references, inappropriate use of email
- Bringing the school into disrepute on excursions and other 'out of school activities' (outside school fights, theft/ shoplifting etc)

#### Misconduct involving and object

 Deliberate throwing objects at staff or students such as rocks, sticks, books etc with intent to threaten or harm.

#### **IT Misconduct** (either on school device or on personal device at school)

 Access to, bringing, taking, sharing inappropriate images, sites, recordings or similar

- One School referral/Exit to Office
- Parent Contact
- AEC Referral
- MYCP/ PLC referral
- RO Behaviour Support
- Individual Behaviour Management Plan
- Loss of privileges for future excursions/or parents attend future excursions
- Suspension (1-20 days)
- Exclusion
- Admin referral to outside agencies, police etc. if required or appropriate.

#### N.B.

Severity will determine level and consequence

Consequences should be developmentally appropriate and context specific



#### **Playground Management**

- Playground duty is the teachers' and school's moral and legal responsibility in terms of duty of care. Supervision is provided on a rostered basis during morning and lunch breaks.
- It is our shared responsibility to ensure students are able to eat in a healthy environment and to play safely, free from harassment.
- At the beginning of each term, and regularly in class, teachers will discuss the rules and ensure each student fully understands the rules. (See Appendix 2)
- Teachers and playground supervisors will use the Responsible Thinking Process when discussing incidents in the playground. (See Appendix 4)

#### **Playground Rules**

To ensure consistency the following will be observed as the school's playground rules.

As A Learner, I will:

- Be Safe
- Be Responsible
- Be Respectful

#### **Duty Teacher Responsibilities:**

- Collect the Duty Folder from the office and return on the completion of the break.
- Be familiar with the duty timetable, areas, school rules, procedures and the contents of the duty folder.
- Be punctual.
- Be vigilant on duty by:
  - Continually walking around the entire duty area.
  - Seeking out all 'hidden places'
  - Talking with students to build friendly relationships
  - Giving praise/gotchas where appropriate
  - Investigate and identify problems/complaints using the 'Responsible thinking Process'
  - Wear a sun safe hat.
- Ensure that you follow the guidelines below to ensure consistency across the school.
- Be ON DUTY when on duty. Try to predict problems before they arise. PREDICT AND PREVENT.

#### Interpreting and Implementing our Playground Rules

To assist staff in interpreting and implementing the playground rules, minor and major behaviours have been agreed upon and the 'Time Out Slip' (See Appendix 5), in each duty folder, lists a range of major behaviours. Appropriate consequences are suggested in the Levels of Behaviour document above. This is provided to ensure consistency and fairness and to encourage a school culture in which students are given the opportunity to learn more appropriate behaviours when they make mistakes.

- General guidelines when determining appropriate consequences are to consider...
  - Safety of children and adults
  - o Rights of others and whether these have been abused
  - Context in which the behaviour occurs.
- Investigate. Use some form of problem solving (eg. Responsible Thinking Process-Appendix 4)
  - Listen to students equally and fairly
  - o Determine the problem (check this with the children)
  - o Identify the cause
  - Facilitate solutions and/or restitution
- Consider whether...
  - o The resulting consequence is already sufficient.
  - The consequence is appropriate



- Any consequence is necessary at all
- Any consequence is needed. (In many cases, a reminder may be sufficient to solve a problem)
- Whether you need to refer the matter further or not.

#### **Important Things To Consider:**

- It is essential all problems reported to supervisors are acted upon and where possible resolved.
   Dismissing students' reported problems without investigation may result in further problems later on for all those involved.
- Whatever behavioural standards are expected of students need to be modelled by supervisors on duty.
- All directions given to students by supervisors must be clear, simple and not open to misinterpretation.
- When situations arise, which are not covered by the rules, then....
  - o Tell the student that the behaviour is unacceptable
  - Give a reason (eg safety, respect)
  - o Give a direction to refrain from the behaviour
  - If the student engages in the same behaviour again, then the consequence is as for not following directions.
- Recognition of appropriate behaviours is of equal, if not greater importance than setting limits for inappropriate behaviour. This recognition should be reflected in how time is spent on behaviour management. If positive recognition does not occur then some students will continue to escalate inappropriate behaviours to gain negative attention.

#### • Positive Consequences

Teachers will look for opportunities to reward students for positive behaviours such as:

- Co-operating with others
- Respecting others
- Showing concern for others
- Cleaning up litter
- Gottchas (to be entered in a weekly prize draw on Parade) will be given to reinforce and acknowledge good behaviour (See Appendix 6). At each school parade, a Gottcha will be drawn out of the box. The winner receives a fruit ice treat from the tuckshop.
- Verbal praise
- Non-verbal reinforcement-a smile, a handshake, thumbs up
- Whole School Positive Behaviour Reward System (See Appendix 1)

#### **Disciplinary (Negative) Consequences**

- Sitting children out in an area away from play for a period of time to be utilized by duty teachers, as a logical consequence when considered appropriate.
- For Minor Behaviours (as per 'Guidelines for Managing Behaviour') no recording is required.
   Warning/rule reminder. Imposition of logical consequences as deemed appropriate by duty teacher (e.g. walk with teacher, litter duty, sit out).
- For Major Behaviours (as per Guidelines for Managing Major Behaviours) the student may be withdrawn from play, issued with a Time Out Slip (See Appendix 5) and either accompany the duty teacher or be referred straight to the office if deemed necessary.
  - Time Out room
  - o Immediate removal from playground if required
  - Complete pink Time Out slip



#### **Crisis Management (Severe Incident) Plan**

- When an incident occurs which is severe and the safety of staff/students may be at risk the
  person in charge immediately send the card to the nearest staff member (or Administrator), or
  make a phone call to the office. The staff member will immediately inform the Office and then
  assistance will be provided.
- Administrators will respond immediately.
- Students should be removed if personal safety is at risk.

#### **Time Out Room**

A Time Out Room will operate during first break four days in the week, (eg: Tuesday – Friday) as a consequence for inappropriate behaviour. It aims to:

- Operate as a positive reactive strategy for students requiring removal from the playground.
- Where appropriate, assist student in developing a personal plan to manage or modify their behaviour in the playground.
- The Time Out room must not be used for the completion of homework or as an in class detention.

#### **Time Out Room Procedure**

#### 1. The Playground Duty Teacher

When issuing a Time Out Slip (pink slip) in the playground, it is the teacher's responsibility to:

- Investigate and identify the real problem fully using the Responsible Thinking Process.
- Record the behaviour on a Time Out Slip. This should be read back to the child, asking if it is true or if anything needs to be added/omitted.
- Direct the child to accompany them for the remainder of the break and send the Time Out Slip to the office.

#### 2. The Student

If a student receives a Time Out Slip in the playground, it is their responsibility to:

- Go to the Time Out Room in the next break.
- Fill out a Reflection sheet which promotes the Responsible thinking Process.
- Take home a letter informing parents (See Appendix 7)
- An email is also automatically sent home to inform the parents and the incident recorded on OneSchool as part of the Time Out process.

If a student chooses not to complete the Time Out, they will attend two sessions. If they continually choose not to complete the Time Out at the designated time they will be referred to Admin, parents will be contacted and additional time out will be imposed.

#### 3. The Time Out Teacher

The Time Out Teacher will:

- Supervise students in completion of a reflection sheet and plan for behaviour change.
- Follow-up with DP, classroom or duty teachers as necessary re student completion of time outs
- Monitor repeat offenders and report concerns to Admin
- Students who repeatedly incur will be placed on an Individual Playground plan. Admin and duty teachers will be advised of the particular plan.
- Time Out incidents are to be recorded on Oneschool and an email sent home to parent by a teacher-aide.



#### **Classroom Management**

Within the first week of the school year each teacher will prepare a class management plan in consultation with students. The plan will consist of rules, positive reinforcements and disciplinary consequences. After being approved by the Administration, the plan will be sent home to parents. (See Appendix 3)

Each class plan is based on the premise that teachers have the right to teach and students have the right to learn in a safe and supportive environment.

The classroom management plan should meet the following criteria.

- Involve students in negotiating behavioural expectations and consequences
- State the three school rules
- Provide a systematic approach to the positive reinforcement of appropriate behaviour
- Include stepped consequences from least intrusive to most intrusive
- The plan is to be submitted to administration for approval prior to be sent home to parents.
- A copy of the plan is sent to every parent to discuss with their children and seek agreement
- Ensure that rules, consequences and rewards are clearly visible, understood by the students and revised frequently.
- Encourage every child every day and send positive notes home frequently
- Record positive and negative behaviour incidents on Oneschool

Students may only bring special items to school if it is part of the classroom program. If a special item, such as a toy or an electronic devise is brought to by a student at any other time, staff may temporarily remove the item until the end of the school day. The item can then be collected by the student. Mobile phones and electronic devises are to be handed to the class teacher or the office at the beginning of the day and collected at the end of the day. (See 'Use of Mobile Phone and other devicesby students' Policy)

\* Temporary Removal of Student Property Policy \*

Staff may remove objects being deemed inappropriate for school and parents will be contacted. Please note: the school will not be held responsible for any inappropriate or special object if it is to go missing or is damaged. (see 'Temporary Removal of Student Property' Policy)

#### **Recognition of Appropriate Behaviours**

- In managing student's behaviour, it is essential that a balanced approach be followed.
- An over-reliance on limit setting/undesirable consequences is adopting a hostile approach to students, is in no-one's best interest and is likely to result in ineffective management.
- The crucial factor in managing behaviour is what we do, when students exhibit appropriate behaviour
- We believe that acknowledging appropriate behaviour is not only a proactive strategy to prevent inappropriate behaviour, but also a tool that encourages and builds a student's self-worth and selfesteem.
- Rewards should be age-appropriate and valued by the students
- Positives earned in class should never be taken away for misbehaviour
- A combination of individual, group/whole class recognition should be implemented
- Students should earn rewards within a realistic time-frame.
- All teachers will utilise the Checklist for Behaviour Levels (see Appendix 1) to assign students with Gold, Silver, Bronze level. At the end of each term, students will be rewarded accordingly.

EXAMPLES: (Note that this list is not exhaustive and is only limited by your imagination)

- Certificates
- Pencils
- Free time
- Letters Home
- Stamps
- Phone call home

- Spend time with a favourite teacher
- Send to other classes to show work
- Special duty/responsibility
- Use of special equipment
- Chart for progress
- Sport



- Raffle Tickets
- Bucket Fillers

#### Responding to Inappropriate Behaviour

- Consequences for negative behaviour will be stepped in severity from least intrusive to most intrusive.
  The first will always be a warning and at some point consequences will involve time out in class. Other
  suggestions include written apologies, loss of play time and time out in a buddy class (See Appendix
  1 'Classroom Behaviour Management Plan')
- All staff should understand that consequences are meant to correct and teach, and that consequences
  must be flexible to take into account both the situation and individual circumstances.
- A planned area Time Away Area (TAA) or Cool Off Table (COT) is to be set aside in each classroom
  as a time out location for children who display inappropriate behaviours. . Time out/Reflection area.
  The main purpose of this area is to give the students opportunity to reconsider their unacceptable
  behaviour and plan acceptable choices. (see Appendix 8)
- It is strongly suggested that each class should have a buddy class. This should be in a different year level so students are unknown to their buddy class, therefore less likely to disrupt and more likely to find it a negative.
- Exiting a Student to the Office or Buddy Class A phone call to the buddy class teacher or office is necessary to alert them to the fact and make sure they are available. The teacher will record the incident on OneSchool. If the student chooses not to go to the office a member of Administration will collect the student.
- If a student is exited from the class-either to TAA/ COT, Buddy class or Office, it is important for all
  members of the class including the teacher, to support the student's decision to return to work. A reentry process may occur involving the student, teacher and Administration. Encouragement, positive
  feedback and praise from the teacher shows the student and their peers, that you are supportive of
  the individual's efforts to think and behave responsibly. In modelling this support the teacher rebuilds
  the relationship with the student.
- Note: Any exiting to Buddy Class or Administration or similar level (e.g staying in at lunch with class teacher, or accompanying class teacher during the break) of consequence is a major incident and must be recorded on Oneschool as a 'Major' by the classroom teacher.

#### Consequences for unacceptable behaviour

#### ADMINISTRATORS MANAGEMENT PLAN

Students identified as having serious behavioural difficulties will be put on an Individual Behaviour Management Plan which will be determined collaboratively by the class teacher, administrators and parents.

The planning process may include:

- · Identification of student's primary behavioural need
- Recorded observations to establish a behaviour profile
- Functional Behaviour Assessment
- Establishment of behavioural goals and strategies to meet student needs based on data gathered
- Planning of lessons to teach appropriate behaviour
- Development of positive reinforcement schedules matched to student needs
- Individual training of teachers in implementation of Individual Behaviour Management Plan and Safety Plan
- Referral of student to school nurse, guidance officer to facilitate possible medical interpretations if required

Queensland

#### **School Disciplinary Absences**

A School Disciplinary Absence (SDA) is an enforced period of absence from attending a Queensland state school, applied by the Principal as a consequence to address poor student behaviour. There are four types of SDA:

- Short suspension (1 to 10 school days)
- Long suspension (11 to 20 school days)
- Charge-related suspension
- Exclusion (period of not more than one year or permanently).

At Thornlands State School, the use of any SDA is considered a very serious decision. It is typically only used by the Principal when other options have been exhausted or the student's behaviour is so dangerous that continued attendance at the school is considered a risk to the safety or wellbeing of the school community.

Parents and students may appeal a long suspension, charge-related suspension or exclusion decision. A review will be conducted by the Director-General or their delegate, and a decision made within 40 schools days to confirm, amend/vary or set aside the original SDA decision by the Principal.

The appeal process is a thorough review of all documentation associated with the SDA decision and provides an opportunity for both the school and the family to present their case in the matter. Time is afforded for collection, dissemination and response to the materials by both the school and the family. It is important that the purpose of the appeal is understood so that expectations are clear, and appropriate supports are in place to ensure students can continue to access their education while completing their SDA.

#### Re-entry following suspension

Students who are suspended from Thornlands State School may be invited to attend a re-entry meeting on the day of their scheduled return to school. The main purpose of this meeting is to welcome the student, with their parent/s, back to the school. It is **not a time** to review the student's behaviour or the decision to suspend, the student has already received a punishment through their disciplinary absence from school. The aim of the re-entry meeting is for school staff to set the student up for future success and strengthen home-school communication.

It is not mandatory for the student or their parents to attend a re-entry meeting. It may be offered as a support for the student to assist in their successful re-engagement in school following suspension.

#### Arrangements

The invitation to attend the re-entry meeting will be communicated via telephone and in writing, usually via email. Re-entry meetings are short, taking less than 10 minutes, and kept small with the Principal or their delegate attending with the student and their parent/s. Where possible the class teacher may also attend.

A record of the meeting is saved in OneSchool, under the Contact tab, including any notes or discussions occurring during the meeting.

#### Structure

The structure of the re-meeting should follow a set agenda, shared in advance with the student and their family. If additional items are raised for discussion, a separate arrangement should be made to meet with the parent/s at a later date and time. This meeting should be narrowly focussed on making the student and their family feel welcome back into the school community.

#### Possible agenda:

- Welcome back to school
- Check in on student wellbeing
- Discuss any recent changes to school routine or staffing
- Offer information about supports available (e.g. guidance officer)
- Set a date for follow-up
- Thank student and parent/s for attending
- Walk with student to classroom



#### Reasonable adjustments

In planning the re-entry meeting, school staff will consider reasonable adjustments needed to support the attendance and engagement of the student. This includes selecting an appropriate and accessible meeting space, organising translation or interpretation services or supports (e.g. AUSLAN), provision of written and/or pictorial information and other relevant accommodations. The inclusion of support staff, such as guidance officers or Community Education Counsellors, may also offer important advice to ensure a successful outcome to the re-entry meeting.



# **School Policies**

The following policies have been designed to assist staff to work consistently to create and maintain a supportive and safe learning environment.

- Temporary removal of student property
- Use of mobile phones and other devices by students
- Preventing and responding to bullying
- Appropriate use of social media



#### Temporary removal of student property

The removal of any property in a student's possession may be necessary to promote the caring, safe and supportive learning environment of the school, to maintain and foster mutual respect between all state school staff and students. The <u>Temporary removal of student property by school staff procedure</u> outlines the processes, conditions and responsibilities for state school principals and school staff when temporarily removing student property.

In determining what constitutes a reasonable time to retain student property, the principal or state school staff will consider:

- the condition, nature or value of the property
- the circumstances in which the property was removed
- the safety of the student from whom the property was removed, other students or staff members
- good management, administration and control of the school.

The Principal or state school staff determine when the temporarily removed student property can be returned, unless the property has been handed to the Queensland Police Service.

The following items are explicitly prohibited at Thornlands State School and will be removed if found in a student's possession:

- illegal items or weapons (e.g. guns, knives\*, throwing stars, brass knuckles, chains)
- imitation guns or weapons
- potentially dangerous items (e.g. blades, rope)
- drugs\*\* (including tobacco)
- alcohol
- aerosol deodorants or cans (including spray paint)
- explosives (e.g. fireworks, flares, sparklers)
- flammable solids or liquids (e.g. fire starters, mothballs, lighters)
- poisons (e.g. weed killer, insecticides)
- inappropriate or offensive material (e.g. racist literature, pornography, extremist propaganda).
- \* No knives of any type are allowed at school, including flick knives, ballistic knives, sheath knives, push daggers, trench knives, butterfly knives, star knives, butter knives, fruit knives or craft knives, or any item that can be used as a weapon, for example a chisel. Knives needed for school activities will be provided by the school, and the use of them will be supervised by school staff.
- \* As per Thornlands State School Use of Mobile Phones and Other Devices By Students Policy, mobile phones and other devices must not be used throughout the school day, for calls or messaging, unless the consent of the child's teacher is forthcoming. Failure to abide by these provisions will result in the temporary removal of the mobile phone or other device.
- \*\* The administration of medications to students by school staff is only considered when a prescribing health practitioner has determined that it is necessary or when there is no other alternative in relation to the treatment of a specific health need. Schools require medical authorisation to administer any medication to students (including over-the-counter medications such as paracetamol or alternative medicines).

#### Responsibilities

State school staff at Thornlands State School:

- do not require the student's consent to search school property such as desks or laptops that are supplied to the student through the school;
- may seize a student's bag where there is suspicion that the student has a dangerous item (for example, a knife) in their school bag, prior to seeking consent to search from a partial or calling the police;

- consent from the student or parent is required to examine or otherwise deal with the temporarily removed student property. For example, staff who temporarily remove a mobile phone from a student are not authorised to unlock the phone or to read, copy or delete messages stored on the phone;
- there may, however, be emergency circumstances where it is necessary to search a student's property without the student's consent or the consent of the student's parents (e.g. to access an EpiPen for an anaphylactic emergency);
- consent from the student or parent is required to search the person of a student (e.g. pockets or shoes). If consent is not provided and a search is considered necessary, the police and the student's parents should be called to make such a determination.

#### Parents of students at Thornlands State School

- ensure your children do not bring property onto schools grounds or other settings used by the school (e.g. camp, sporting venues) that:
  - o is prohibited according to the Thornlands State School Student Code of Conduct
  - is illegal
  - o puts the safety or wellbeing of others at risk
  - does not preserve a caring, safe, supportive or productive learning environment
  - o does not maintain and foster mutual respect;
- collect temporarily removed student property as soon as possible after they have been notified by the Principal or state school staff that the property is available for collection.

#### **Students** of Thornlands State School

- do not bring property onto school grounds or other settings used by the school (e.g. camp, sporting venues) that:
  - o is prohibited according to the Thornlands State School Student Code of Conduct
  - is illegal
  - puts the safety or wellbeing of others at risk
  - o does not preserve a caring, safe, supportive or productive learning environment
  - does not maintain and foster mutual respect;
- collect their property as soon as possible when advised by the Principal or state school staff
  it is available for collection.



#### Use of mobile phones and other devices by students

The incidents of mobile phones and other devices being brought to school is increasing. The security of these devices and their use has significant potential to cause disruption within the order of the school. This policy is a proactive endeavour to meet the needs within the school context and of families where there is genuine need for students to have a mobile phone or other device in their possession.

It is recognised that there are incidents where parents have provided a personal communication device to students for safety on the way home from school.

**Mobile phones and other devices** may be brought to school by students if the following requirements are adhered to:-

- Written consent of the student's parent must be received by the child's teacher if a student is to be in
  possession of a mobile phoner or other device while at school. Parents may write a letter but will then
  be provided with the relevant permission form, which must be completed. (see Appendix 9)
- The mobile phone or other device is to be stored securely in the student's bag. Alternatively, (if the teacher is agreeable) students may leave the phone with their class teacher.
- The mobile phone or other device must not be used throughout the school day, for calls or messaging, unless the consent of the child's teacher is forthcoming. Communication between home and school during the period when students are at school, must be done through the school office.

#### Consequences

Failure to abide by these provisions will result in confiscation of the mobile phone or other device. It will be held at the school office for collection by the offending student's parents/caregiver. Only one warning for non- compliance with the policy will be given. A second offence will result in consent for a personal communication device / mobile phone to be on school premises, being withdrawn.

Inappropriate use by students, of any mobile phone or other device, will be dealt with in a manner consistent with the school's **Student Code of Conduct.** 

- \* Mobile phones and other devices includes, but is not limited to, tablets, games devices (such as Portable gaming devices, mobile telephones, IPods®, iPads, smart watches, digital cameras and devices of a similar nature.
- \* The school does not take any responsibility for damage or loss to mobile phones or other devices brought to school.



#### Preventing and responding to bullying

At Thornlands State School we aim to build a safe, respectful and responsible learning community which actively encourages positive behaviours and attitudes and promotes wellbeing for all staff and students. We do not tolerate bullying in any form. All members of the Thornlands Community are committed to ensuring a safe and supportive environment for everyone.

#### WHAT IS BULLYING?

Bullying is an **ongoing** misuse of power in relationships through **intentional** and **repeated** verbal, physical and/or social behaviour that causes physical and/or psychological harm. It can involve individuals or groups. *Isolated incidents*, exclusions and mutual disagreements are not defined as bullying.

#### SOME EXAMPLES OF BULLYING INCLUDE:

- Physical Bullying e.g. hitting, poking, kicking, tripping, spitting or pushing
- Verbal Bullying e.g. repeated name calling, insults, homophobic/racist remarks, verbal abuse
- Covert Bullying e.g. lying, spreading rumours, playing nasty jokes that cause humiliation
- Psychological Bullying e.g. threatening, manipulating or stalking someone
- Cyber Bullying e.g. using technology and social networking sites to bully (At its most serious, cyber bullying is illegal and can be investigated by the police).

#### WHAT DO WE DO TO PREVENT BULLYING AT THORNLANDS?

As a School Community we will not allow cases of bullying to go unreported.

#### This requires All Staff to:

- Be role models in word and action at all times
- Be observant of signs of distress or suspected incidents of bullying
- Make efforts to remove occasions for bullying by actively supervising students
- Arrive at class on time and move promptly between lessons
- Take steps to help victims and remove sources of distress without placing the victim at further risk
- Report suspected incidents to the appropriate staff member such as Principal, Deputy Principal or Guidance Officer

#### This requires *Teachers in classrooms* to:

- Establish rules and a positive environment
- Implement SSE and social skills lessons to explicitly teach expectations and behaviours
- Encourage empathy
- Teach non-violent conflict resolution skills
- Use the Responsible Thinking Process when investigating incidents
- Encourage children to use assertive body and verbal language
- Encourage children to report bullying and not to be bystanders
- Encourage children to form friendships with isolated children
- Reward children who are able to change behaviour (being more assertive or not being physically and verbally aggressive)

#### This requires *All Students* to:

- Refuse to be involved in any bullying situation. If they are present when bullying occurs:
  - Take some form of preventative action if appropriate (e.g blocking)
  - Report the incident or suspected incident to an adult

#### This requires *Administration* to:

- Investigate and record details of any bullying incident
- Conduct No-blame Interviews
- Follow through with students
- Notify parents
- Seek professional help if necessary
- Follow up on assemblies and in newsletters



#### The school recommends that Parents:

- Remain calm and listen carefully, encouraging your child to discuss the situation
- Keep an open mind and remember that there may be two different accounts of an event
- Treat the incident seriously but don't respond in an overly protective manner
- Reassure your child there is nothing wrong with him/her
- Remind the child of the strategies being taught at school
- Help your child to speak up and to practise the skills of assertiveness: THINK STRONG, SPEAK STRONG, ACT STRONG AND BELIEVE STRONG
- Discuss the situation with a teacher or administrator ( please do not approach other students, leave this to the school)
- Guide for parents

The Department of Education employs a dedicated team of experts who have created a guide for parents with important information about cybersafety and cyberbullying, and suggestions about what you can do if your child is a target or responsible for inappropriate online behaviour.

#### Framework for action

- The school will implement an anti-bullying program across all year levels (eg. Bucket Filling, Bullying No Way, Respectful Relationships Education programme - Australian Curriculum Health)
- The school will support victims of bullying and assist them with strategies to avoid bullying in the future
- The school will use positive strategies to assist children displaying bullying behaviour to modify their behaviour
- The school will collect regular data related to track bullying and the effectiveness of this bullying policy
- Periodic parent workshops (Think U Know Cyberbullying)

Students who engage in bullying behaviours towards others will also be provided with support to assist them to use more socially acceptable and appropriate behaviours in their interactions. This includes counselling, social skilling programs, referral to mental health services or involvement in restorative justice process. School disciplinary measures may also be used to reinforce the seriousness with which the community takes all incidents of bullying. These measures may include internal loss of priviledges and withdrawal from rewards days and celebrations or more severe punishments such as suspension or exclusion from school.

#### Resources

- Friendly Schools Resources and website (www.friendlyschools.com.au)
- National Safe Schools Framework (www.safeschoolshub.edu.au)
- Queensland Schools Alliance Against Violence (QSAAV) resources
- The Alannah and Madeline Foundation (amf.org.au)
- Kids Helpline
- ReachOut.com
- Bullying. No way! (www.bullyingnoway.gov.au)
- See the Teacher Librarian for books and other resources related to bullying

The following flowchart explains the actions Thornlands State School teachers will take when they receive a report about student bullying, including bullying which may have occurred online or outside of the school setting. Please note that the indicative timeframes will vary depending on the professional judgment of teachers who receive the bullying complaint and their assessment of immediate risk to student/s.



#### **Bullying response flowchart for teachers**

Please note these timelines may be adjusted depending on the unique circumstances and risk associated with each situation. This is at the professional judgment of the staff involved. Timeframes should be clearly discussed and agreed with student and family.

#### Key contact for students and parents to report bullying:

Prep to Year 6 - Class teacher and/ or School Administrator

First hour Listen

Day one Document

Day two Collect

Day three Discuss

Day four Implement

Day five Review

Ongoing Follow up

- · Provide a safe, quiet space to talk
- Reassure the student that you will listen to them
- · Let them share their experience and feelings without interruption
- If you hold immediate concerns for the student's safety, let the student know how you will address these. Immediate in this circumstance is where the staff member believes the student is likely to experience harm (from others or self) within the next 24 hours
- Ask the student for examples they have of the alleged bullying (e.g. hand written notes or screenshots)
- Write a record of your communication with the student
- Check back with the student to ensure you have the facts correct
- · Enter the record in OneSchool
- · Notify parent/s that the issue of concern is being investigated
- Gather additional information from other students, staff or family
- · Review any previous reports or records for students involved
- Make sure you can answer who, what, where, when and how
- Clarify information with student and check on their wellbeing
- Evaluate the information to determine if bullying has occurred or if another disciplinary matter is at issue
- Make a time to meet with the student to discuss next steps
- Ask the student what they believe will help address the situation
- Provide the student and parent with information about student support network
- · Agree to a plan of action and timeline for the student, parent and yourself
- Document the plan of action in OneSchool
- · Complete all actions agreed with student and parent within agreed timeframes
- Monitor the student and check in regularly on their wellbeing
- Seek assistance from student support network if needed
- Meet with the student to review situation
- · Discuss what has changed, improved or worsened
- Explore other options for strengthening student wellbeing or safety
- Report back to parent
- · Record outcomes in OneSchool
- Continue to check in with student on regular basis until concerns have been mitigated
- · Record notes of follow-up meetings in OneSchool
- Refer matter to specialist staff within 48 hours if problems escalate
- · Look for opportunities to improve school wellbeing for all students



### Cyberbullying

Cyberbullying is treated at Thornlands State School with the same level of seriousness as in-person bullying. The major difference with cyberbullying however, is that unlike in-person bulling, cyberbullying follows students into their community, their homes and their bedrooms, giving them no opportunity to escape the harassment or abuse during the evening, weekends or holidays.

In the first instance, students or parents who wish to make a report about cyberbullying should approach the regular class teacher.

It is important for students, parents and staff to know that state school principals have the authority to take disciplinary action to address student behaviours that occur outside of school hours or school grounds. This includes cyberbullying. Parents and students who have concerns about cyberbullying incidents occurring during school holidays should immediately seek assistance through the <a href="Office of the e-Safety Commissioner">Office of the e-Safety Commissioner</a> or the Queensland Police Service.

Students enrolled at Thornlands State School may face in-school disciplinary action, such as Time Out or removing of privileges, or more serious consequences such as suspension or exclusion from school for engaging in behaviour that adversely affects, or is likely to adversely affect, other students or the good order and management of the school. This includes behaviour such as cyberbullying which occurs outside of school hours or settings, for example on the weekend or during school holidays. It also applies to inappropriate online behaviour of enrolled students that is directed towards other community members or students from other school sites.

Parents or other stakeholders who engage in inappropriate online behaviour towards students, staff or other parents may be referred to the Office of the e-Safety Commissioner and/or the Queensland Police Service. State school staff will be referred for investigation to the Integrity and Employee Relations team in the Department of Education. Any questions or concerns about the school process for managing or responding to cyberbullying should be directed to class teacher or administration.

Bullying, Cyber-bullying, fighting, the deliberate use of abusive language to supervisors or an on-going pattern of disruptive, non-compliant behaviour are serious as they infringe on the rights of others to learn, work or play in a safe, supportive environment. Offending students should be referred to the Office as outlined in the playground and classroom management procedures to be dealt with by an Administrator. Parents will be contacted usually by phone and/or letter informing them of the issues of concern. The incident is to be recorded on Oneschool by the class teacher and Admin.

### Students may:

- Be severely reprimanded and counselled
- Complete unfinished work in play time
- Receive a number of days out of play
- Plan for behaviour change
- Be given an Individual Behaviour Plan
- Have a period of community service imposed upon them
- Be removed from class for a period of in-school detention time
- Have access to school computer system removed for a period of time.
- Be warned of the possibility of suspension if the behaviour continues
- Suspension and/or exclusion.

Appropriate on line behaviour is encouraged by pro-active strategies such as cyber safety lessons for students and workshops for parents. Inappropriate on line behaviour which affect's the school's good order and management will be referred to Administration. Parents will be contacted and the matter will be referred to the Guidance Officer if deemed necessary.

- The Principal has the discretion to implement suspension/exclusion procedures as she/he deems
  necessary and appropriate, following a full investigation of the issue/event. This measure will only
  be used after consideration has been given to all other responses.
- Any bullying incident will be dealt with as soon as it becomes known to the school. All teachers will be inducted in the Thornlands Preventing and Responding to Bullying Policy. Referral to Administration may be necessary. In these cases, the Administrator's Management Plan will be followed.
- Appropriate on line behaviour is encouraged by pro-active strategies such as cyber safety lessons for students and workshops for parents. Inappropriate on line behaviour which affects the school's good order and management will be referred to Administration. Parents will be contacted and the matter will be referred to the Guidance Officer if deemed necessary. The student may have their access to the school computer system taken away for a period of time.
- Extensive feedback from parents and staff has informed the following list of types of behaviours which may result in the consideration of a suspension
  - Wilfully engaging in a pattern of unprovoked physical and/or verbally aggressive behaviour (eg abusive swearing) against others
  - o Deliberate actions endangering themselves and/or others
  - Wilfully damaging or destroying, or conspiring to damage or destroy another's property or the property of the school.
  - o Immoral behaviour
  - o Illegal behaviour eg. Smoking. Substance abuse, weapons etc
  - A pattern of behaviour which is purposely and intentionally attempting to disturb the smooth operations of the school (ie, ongoing, repeated and deliberate breaking of the classroom or playground rules.)

The duration of the suspension will be determined by:

- The severity of the incident/s
- o The degree of the conscious intent
- o The student's previous history

Parents or other stakeholders who engage in inappropriate online behaviour towards students, staff or other parents may be referred to the Office of the e-Safety Commissioner and/or the Queensland Police Service. State school staff will be referred for investigation to the Integrity and Employee Relations team in the Department of Education. Any questions or concerns about the school process for managing or responding to cyberbullying should be directed to class teacher or relevant Deputy Principal.



# Cyberbullying response flowchart for school staff

# How to manage online incidents that impact your school

### Student protection

If at any point the principal forms a reasonable suspicion that a student has been harmed or is at risk of harm, they have a responsibility to respond in accordance with the Student protection procedure.

### **Explicit images**

If the investigation involves naked or explicit images of children, staff should not save, copy, forward or otherwise deal with the content, as per the Temporary removal of student property by school staff procedure. This includes onto OneSchool records. Refer to the investigative process outlined in 'Responding to incidents involving naked or explicit images of children' from the Online Incident management guidelines.

### Help

Refer to the Online incident management guidelines for more details, or if assistance is required, contact the Cybersafety and Reputation Management (CSRM)team on 3034 5035 or Cybersafety.ReputationManagement@qed.qld.

### Does the online behaviour/incident negatively impact the good order and management of the school?





### 1. Initiate an incident response

Start an incident management log (running sheet) which records times and dates of events, observations, tasks completed, persons involved and written conversational notes.

#### 2. Collect evidence

Gather and preserve any evidence of the online content or a potential unlawful online behaviour, where legally permissible. Confiscation of digital devices can only be done under the Temporary removal of student property by school staff procedure.

### 3. Is there a potential crime?

sland Criminal Code contains several applicable sections for cyberbullying. A list of potential relevant criminal offences can be viewed at Appendix 3, and include:

- unlawful stalking
- computer hacking and misuse
- possession, distribution and making child exploitation material
- fraud obtaining or dealing with identification information
- criminal defamation.

Inform the student's parent/s (and student if appropriate) of their options:

- 1. Report the incident to an external agency such as police, Office of the eSafety Commissioner or the Australian Cybercrime Online Reporting Network.
- 2. Report the online content/behaviour using the online tools provided by the website or app.

Principals may start contact with a law enforcement agency (LEA) by completing an LEA referral form, under the Disclosing personal information to law enforcement agencies procedure. Refer back to Step 3 to report potential crimes that do not negatively impact the good order of the school.



Principals may start contact with a law enforcement agency (LEA) by completing an LEA referral form. Information can be shared when reasonably satisfied the disclosure is necessary for the prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution or punishment of a criminal offence or to assist in averting a serious risk to the life, health or safety of a person or where the disclosure is in the public interest. For access to the relevant forms, refer to Disclosing personal information to law enforcement agencies procedure.

Principals may continue to investigate the matter for disciplinary purposes, subject to all laws and department



Content may not constitute a criminal offence requiring police involvement but it may negatively impact the good order and management of the school. Principals can take action for the online behaviour as outlined below.

### 4. Take steps to remove the upsetting or inappropriate content

Request poster to remove, use online reporting tools or if assistance is required, contact the CSRM team

### 5. Managing student behaviour

Where the online behaviours of students do negatively impact the good order and management of the school, the principal must take appropriate follow-up action.

- · take statutory disciplinary action to address cyberbullying:
  - that occurs outside of school hours or school grounds that also negatively affects the good order and management of the school (e.g. where the conduct, threats, intimidation or abuse have created, or would likely create a risk of, substantial disruption within the school environment, or where the conduct, threats, intimidation or abuse has or might reach school premises);
  - that is undertaken on or originating from school premises during school hours, or by means of use of school ICT, concerning other students, staff or members of the school community;
- use non-statutory options to deal with the matter, for example:
  - discussion with student's parents;
  - student mediation; apology;
  - ICT / mobile technology ban;
  - guidance referral.

### 6. Student welfare

Regardless of whether or not the cyberbullying is a matter that must be dealt with by the school Principal as a disciplinary matter or by alternative means (see 5 above), Principals must consider and support the wellbeing of any student who is displaying apparent negative effects from cyberbullying, by means of offering the student guidance officer support.

### 7. Recording the incident on OneSchool

If the incident was resolved at school-level, record details of the incident, as reported to the school and investigated through the incident management process, in the student's OneSchool behaviour record.



# Appropriate use of social media

The internet, mobile phones and social media provide wonderful opportunities for students to network and socialise online. While these technologies provide positive platforms for sharing ideas, they also have the potential to cause pain and suffering to individuals, groups or even whole communities.

It's important to remember that sometimes negative comments posted about the school community have a greater impact than expected. This guide offers some information about how to use social media in relation to comments or posts about the school community. Reputations of students, teachers, schools, principals and even parents can be permanently damaged — and in some cases, serious instances of inappropriate online behaviour are dealt with by police and the court system.

Being aware of a few simple strategies can help keep the use of social media positive and constructive:

- Before you post something online, ask yourself if the community or individual really need to know. Is it relevant, positive and helpful?
- Remember that what you post online is a direct reflection of who you are. People will potentially form lasting opinions of you based on what you post online.
- Be a good role model. If things get heated online consider logging out and taking a few moments to relax and think. Hasty, emotive responses could inflame situations unnecessarily.
- Be mindful when commenting, try to keep general and avoid posting anything that could identify individuals.
- A few years ago parents may have discussed concerns or issues with their friends at the school gate. Today with the use of social media, online discussions between you and your close friends can very quickly be shared with a much wider audience, potentially far larger than intended.
- Taking a few moments to think about the content you are about to post could save upset, embarrassment, and possible legal action.
- As a parent you have a role in supervising and regulating your child's online activities at home and its impact on the reputation and privacy of others. Parents are their child's first teachers so they will learn online behaviours from you.

### Is it appropriate to comment or post about schools, staff or students?

Parental and community feedback is important for schools and the department. If you have a compliment, complaint or enquiry about an issue at school, the best approach is to speak directly to the school about the matter, rather than discussing it in a public forum.

While many schools use social media to update parents of school notices, the department prefers that parents contact schools directly with a compliment, complaint or enquiry due to privacy considerations. Imagine if your doctor, accountant or banking institution tried to contact you to discuss important matters via Facebook.

If you have raised an issue with a school or know that another person has, consider refraining from discussing those details on social media, particularly the names of anyone involved.

Keep comments calm and polite, just as you would over the telephone or by email. If you encounter negative or derogatory content online which involves the school, hinders a child's learning and/or affects the school community at large, contact the school principal.

# Possible civil or criminal ramifications of online commentary

A serious instance of inappropriate online behaviour may constitute a criminal offence and become a police matter. For example, online content may substantiate the offence of 'using a carriage service to menace, harass or cause offence' (Criminal Code Act 1995 (Cth) s. 474.17). School staff may contact their union or obtain personal legal advice if they feel that online content seriously impacts their reputation. Defamatory online content may give rise to litigation under the Defamation Act 2005 (Qld).

### What about other people's privacy?

If you upload photos of your children, be mindful of who might be in the background. You might be happy to share your child's successes with your friends and family via social media, but some parents are not. If you are tagging or naming students, consider that other parents may not want their child's name attached to images online.

### What if I encounter problem content?

Taking the following steps may help resolve the issue in a constructive way:

- refrain from responding
- take a screen capture or print a copy of the concerning online content
- if you consider problem content to be explicit, pornographic or exploitative of minors, you should keep a record of the URL of the page containing that content but NOT print or share it. The URL can be provided to the school principal, or police, as needed for escalation of serious concerns
- block the offending user
- report the content to the social media provider.

# Restrictive Practices

School staff at Thornlands State School need to respond to student behaviour that presents a risk of physical harm to the students themselves or others.

In some very rare situations, where there is immediate risk of physical harm to the student or other people, and when all other alternative strategies have failed to reduce the risk, it may be necessary for staff to use restrictive practices.

The use of restrictive practices will always be as a last resort, when there is no other available option for reducing immediate risk to the student, staff or other people. Restrictive practices are not used for punishment or as a disciplinary measure.

The department's <u>Restrictive practices procedure</u> is written with consideration for the protection of everyone's human rights, health, safety and welfare. There are six fundamental principles:

- 1. Regard to the human rights of those students
- 2. Safeguards students, staff and others from harm
- 3. Ensures transparency and accountability
- 4. Places importance on communication and consultation with parents and carers
- 5. Maximises the opportunity for positive outcomes, and
- 6. Aims to reduce or eliminate the use of restrictive practices.

Very rarely restrictive practices will be planned and staff will employ, when necessary, pre-arranged strategies and methods (of physical restraint/ mechanical restraint/ clinical holding) which are based upon behaviour risk assessment or clinical health need and are recorded in advance. The use of planned strategies will only be where there is foreseeable immediate risk consistent with the **Restrictive practices procedure**.

Seclusion will not be used as a planned response and will only be used in serious circumstances for managing an unforeseeable situation in an emergency. It will be used for the shortest time possible and in a safe area that presents no additional foreseeable risk to the student. In such emergencies, a staff member will observe the student at all times and seclusion will cease as soon as possible.

Following the use of any restrictive practice, a focused review will help staff to understand how the sponded to the risk in any incident that involved the use of a restrictive practice. Staff will consider when there are

**Queensland** Government other options for managing a similar situation in the future. This strategy works well for reducing the use of restrictive practices.

All incidents of restrictive practices will be recorded and reported in line with departmental procedures.



# **Critical Incidents**

It is important that all school staff have a consistent understanding of how to respond in emergencies involving student behaviour that seriously endangers students or others. This consistency ensures that appropriate actions are taken to ensure that both students and staff are kept safe.

A **critical incident** is defined as an occurrence that is sudden, urgent, and usually unexpected, or an occasion requiring immediate action. (e.g. in the community, on the road). The aim in these situations is to bring the behaviour of the student under rapid and safe control. It is not atime to try and punish or discipline the student; it is a crisis management period only.

Staff should follow the documented plan for any student involved in regular critical incidents, which should be saved and available for staff to review in OneSchool.

**Severe problem behaviour** is defined as behaviour of such intensity, frequency, or duration that the physical safety of the student or others is likely to be placed in serious jeopardy.

For unexpected critical incidents, staff should use basic defusing strategies

Avoid escalating the problem behaviour

Avoid shouting, cornering the student, moving into the student's space, touching or grabbing the student, sudden responses, sarcasm, becoming defensive, communicating anger and frustration through body language.

- O Maintain calmness, respect and detachment Model the behaviour you want students to adopt, stay calm and controlled, use a serious measured tone, choose your language carefully, avoid humiliating the student, be matter of fact and avoid responding emotionally.
- Remove any other students in the vicinity.
- O Approach the student in a non-threatening manner
  Move slowly and deliberately toward the problem situation, speak privately to the student/s where possible, speak
  calmly and respectfully, minimise body language, keep a reasonable distance, establish eye level position, be
  brief, stay with the agenda, acknowledge cooperation, withdraw if the situation escalates.
- Follow through

If the student starts displaying the appropriate behaviour briefly acknowledge their choice and re-direct other students' attention towards their usual work/activity. If the student continues with the problem behaviour then remind them of the expected school behaviour and identify consequences of continued unacceptable behaviour.

Debrief

Help the student to identify the sequence of events that led to the unacceptable behaviour, pinpoint decision moments during the sequence of events, evaluate decisions made, and identify acceptable decision options for future situations.

Help staff to recover from what may have been a traumatic incident and provide ongoing support if needed. (Lifeworks)

Physical Intervention

Staff may make legitimate use of physical intervention if all non-physical interventions have been exhausted and a student is:

- · physically assaulting another student or staff member
- posing an immediate danger to him/herself or to others.

Appropriate restrictive practices may be used to ensure that Thornlands's duty of care to protect students and staff from foreseeable risks of injury is met. The use of physical intervention is only considered appropriate where the immediate safety of others is threatened and the strategy is used to prevent injury. (see Restrictive Practices Policy)



# Appendices



### Appendix 1

# <u>Supportive School Environment – Thornlands State School</u> <u>Checklist for Behaviour Levels</u>

- > All students begin on Silver, which indicates an acceptable level of safe, respectful and responsible behaviour
- > Students must consistently demonstrate 'Gold' level behaviour for 5 days (Prep year 2) or 10 days (Year 3 Year 6) before being **eligible** to move. (Moving to 'Gold' is not automatic).
- > Students sent to 'buddy class' or equivalent or a student involved in a major incident (as defined in the Student Code of Conduct, recorded on Oneschool and parent informed) move down a level.
- ▶ Prep Year 2 Students will remain on that level for 5 days and Year 3 Year 6 will remain on that level for 10 days.
- ➤ A student returning from suspension will return on a Bronze level
- ➤ Teachers will use Behaviour Levels to assist with A E behaviour ratings for report cards
- Students will need to demonstrate Gold behaviour to apply for leadership roles in our school.
- > Students on a Bronze level will need to discuss camp/out of school/excursion attendance with Administration

| Classroo          | Gold   | Silver   | Bronze  |
|-------------------|--|--|---|
| m Learning        | Behaviour demonstrated is of a consistently high standard  | Behaviour demonstrated is of a consistently acceptable standard  | Assistance is required to maintain behaviour at an  |
| <u>Behaviours</u> |  |  | acceptable standard   |
|                   | 'Independently'  | 'With some support of class teacher'   | 'Additional support personnel involved'   |
| Be<br>Responsible | Consistently and independently: Takes excellent care of possessions Completes given tasks - often going beyond expectations Attempts new/difficult tasks Stays focused on tasks Complies immediately, rarely requires re-direction Never disrupts class learning Is punctual Completes home tasks  (No Buddy Class or equivalent)                    | With some reminders usually:  Takes good care of possessions Completes given tasks Attempts new/difficult tasks Stays focused on tasks Complies when given a direction, may require some reminders (Rarely disrupts class learning)  | Requires extensive and additional support to:  Look after possessions  Complete tasks  Attempt new/difficult tasks  Stay focused on tasks  Stay on task, often failing to comply when asked  Be respectful and not disrupt class learning  (Buddy Class or equivalent used often)                                     |
| Be<br>Respectful  | Consistently and independently: Shows respect for teachers and peers during classroom interactions Listens to, shares with, and supports the efforts of others Wears the school uniform correctly and with pride Plays fairly with others, respecting differences Demonstrates excellent social and emotional skills independent of adult assistance | With some reminders usually: Shows respect for teachers and peers during classroom interactions Listens to, shares with, and supports the efforts of others Wears the school uniform correctly and with pride Plays fairly with others and respects differences Demonstrates satisfactory social and emotional skills with some adult assistance on occasion | Requires extensive and additional support to:  Show respect for teachers and peers during classroom interactions  Listen to, share with, or support the efforts of others  Wear the school uniform correctly and with pride  Play fairly and respect differences  Demonstrate appropriate social and emotional skills |
| Be<br>Safe        | Consistently and independently: Displays exemplary behaviour and encourages other to do the same Ensures the safety of self and others Behaves safely in the classroom and in other school settings Wears a sunsafe hat outside at all times Plays safely  | With some reminders usually:     Displays appropriate behaviour to ensure the safety of others     Behaves safely in the classroom and all other school settings     Wears a sunsafe hat     Plays safely  | Requires extensive and additional support to:  Behave safely in the classroom and other school settings Play safely Avoid physical misconduct (Often hurts or injures other students)   |

46

# Appendix 2 Thornlands State School SSE Lessons - Suggested Order of Teaching

|            | Term 1                                 | Term 2  | Term 3   | Term 4   |
|------------|--|---|--|--|
| Week 1     | Inside Classrooms                      | Inside Classrooms                             | Inside Classrooms                                | Inside Classrooms                                |
| Week 2     | Before School / After School           | Transitions (Moving Around / Walkways)        | On the Oval                                      | Sunsmart / Uniforms                              |
| Week 3     | Transitions (Moving Around / Walkways) | Computers / Cyber Safety / Electronic Devices | Playground and Undercover areas                  | Transitions (Moving Around / Walkways)           |
| Week 4     | Sunsmart / Uniforms                    | Eating Time                                   | Before School / After School                     | Toilets (swimming lessons)                       |
| Week 5     | Toilets                                | Tuckshop                                      | Toilets (Excursions/ out of school)              | Before School / After School                     |
| Week 6     | Tuckshop                               | Toilets                                       | Tuckshop   | Excursions / Out of School                       |
| Week 7     | Playground and Undercover areas        | Before School / After School                  | Computers / Cyber Safety / Electronic<br>Devices | On the Oval                                      |
| Week 8     | Eating Time                            | On the Oval                                   | Transitions (Moving Around / Walkways)           | Playgrounds and Undercover areas                 |
| Week 9     | On the Oval                            | Playground and Undercover areas               | Sunsmart / Uniforms                              | Tuckshop   |
| Week<br>10 | Excursions / Out of School             | Sunsmart / Uniforms                           | Eating Time                                      | Computers / Cyber Safety / Electronic<br>Devices |



Panorama Drive Thornlands, QLD 4164 phone 07 3821 8111 fax 07 3821 8100 admin@thornlandsss.eq.edu.au www.thornlandsss.eq.edu.au

**Principal** Robyn Wilton

### CLASSROOM BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT PLAN

Class: Teacher:

I look forward to having a successful and productive year with your child in my class. In order to provide our students with a classroom climate conducive to learning, we have developed the following Classroom Management Plan that will be in effect at all times. The plan is based on Thornlands State School's Behaviour Management plan and is grounded in our belief that all members of the school community have "the right to work and interact without disruption in a safe, supportive environment which promotes cooperation and learning". An important feature of the class plan is that positive behaviours are recognized and praised.

# Classroom and Playground Rules

# As a Learner, I will:

- Be Safe
- Be Responsible
- Be Respectful

There will be occasions when students break these rules. In all instances, these situations will be addressed from a positive perspective ie using the experience as a learning experience such that the inappropriate behaviour will not re-occur. This is easiest to apply for low level / minor behaviours. Where repeated inappropriate behaviour is evident or the behaviour is seen to be of a serious nature, more serious consequences will be applied. Where possible, consequences will be logical in relation to the behaviour (eg make a mess – student cleans it up).

Our general consequences within the classroom will be as follows:-

### **Consequences for Inappropriate Behaviours**

<u>Consequences should be stepped in severity – bits in red need to be included at appropriate points in your plan - DELETE ALL Red FONT before submitting</u>

- 1. Warining, Rule reminder & name on blackboard
- 2. Second warning and rule reminder
- 3. Cool off time at the Time Away Area or Time Out table. Parents informed.
- 4. Buddy class or equivalent (class work to be completed or miss 10 minutes of playtime). Parents informed
- 5. Sent to Administration

SEVERE CLAUSE Dangerous and/or persistent and ongoing behaviour will be addressed immediately by Admin

Parents will be informed should there be concerns about behaviour which is considered to be serious or if there is a pattern of negative behaviour developing. Classroom detentions during a break (up to 10min), may be applied by classroom teachers where they are seen to be an effective consequence. If your child consistently experiences difficulties in following our school rules and has a number of recorded major incidents, a meeting will be arranged with the classroom teacher and Deputy Principal to discuss their behaviour and whether it is safe for them to participate in scheduled school events such as camps, activities and excursions.

Of course, it is important that students' positive conduct is recognized and rewarded. This is important as it reinforces positive behaviour and contributes towards the growth of the child.

Students who consistently demonstrate positive behaviour will qualify as Gold or Silver students and will participate in a Reward Day at the end of each term. ("Reward Day" is optional, but all classes need to operate the gold, silver, bronze system in some format for school wide consistency)

In addition the following rewards for positive behaviour will be implemented in the classroom, as often as possible, at the teacher's discretion.

# **Rewards for Positive Behaviour**

list a range of positive rewards designed to reward, individuals, small groups, whole class

We need your support to ensure the effectiveness of our classroom plan. Working together we can achieve the best outcomes. Please discuss this plan with your child and contact the class teacher should you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

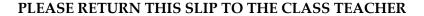
| Bill Bloggs   | Robyn Wilton |
|---------------|--------------|
| Class Teacher | Principal    |
|               |              |

# **STUDENT NAME:**

I have discussed the class behaviour plan with my son/daughter and will work with you in ensuring a positive classroom climate in 20\_\_\_\_.

**Parent Signature** 

Date





### Appendix 4

# **Responsible Thinking Process**

For children to succeed, they must believe you care about them; that you have confidence in their ability to solve problems, and they must experience mutual respect. The responsible thinking process helps build the relationship that will make it easier to resolve differences. It teaches self-discipline through responsible thinking. Ask questions in a calm, respectful, curious voice. Never yell or tell, always ask. Avoid excuses by not asking 'Why?'.

# When dealing with students in the classroom or playground ask:

- 1. What are you doing?
- 2. What should you be doing?
- 3. What happens when you break the rules?
- 4. Is this what you want to happen?
- 5. We've got to work it out.
- 6. What will happen if you disrupt again?

# When dealing with complaints (particularly in the playground) ask:

- 1. What have you done to solve the problem?
  - Did you ignore it the first time?
  - Did you walk away?
  - Did you say, 'I don't like it when . . .'
  - Did you stop running if being chased?
  - Did you ask nicely if you could play?
- 2. Redirect the child to implement these strategies and if unsuccessful reinform the teacher on duty.
- 3. What do you want me to do now?
- 4. Are you happy with that?



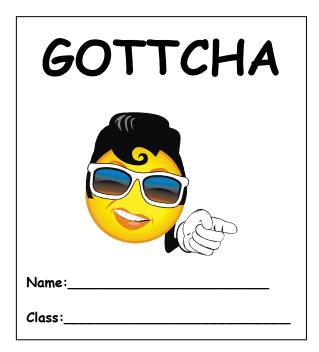
### Appendix 5

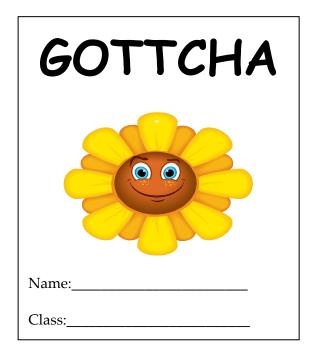
0

0

# TIME OUT TICKET

| Student's Name   | Class:                      |  |         |
|--|-----------------------------|--|---------|
| Date: Time of In   | ncident:                    | Area:  |         |
| Issuing Staff member:  |                             |  |         |
| Reason for Time Out: (Circle relevant be   | haviour/s)                  |  |         |
| Major Behaviours   |                             | Reasonable<br>Consequence  |         |
| <ul> <li>Continued insolence or non of (ie repeated minor or moderate behaviours despite rule remineredirection, lower level consequence)</li> <li>Abusive swearing.</li> <li>Fighting / aggressive behavioure</li> <li>Threatening or harassing othered vandalism</li> <li>Severe / ongoing bullying.</li> <li>Misusing toilets</li> <li>Spitting</li> <li>Stealing</li> <li>Possession of banned or unlaw or substances.</li> <li>Out of bounds (out of school general service)</li> </ul> | ders, quences etc) ur. ers. | Detention     Immediate     removal from     playground if     required.  Admin is to be notified immediately     by red card if assistance is needed. |         |
| Any other comments:  |                             |  |         |
| Names of any others involved:  |                             |  |         |
| Action taken by staff member prior to issue of   |                             | ne Out Teacher/Adı<br>l <u>y:</u>  | min Use |
| Warning/Rule reminder Name Recorded in duty folder Logical consequence eg litter duty, apology Time out in playground Counselled re behaviour Asked to accompany teacher on duty   |                             | AL NUMBER OF SESSION   | 'S IN   |









Panorama Drive Thornlands, QLD 4164 **phone** 07 3821 8111 **fax** 07 3821 8100 admin@thornlandsss.eq.edu.au www.thornlandsss.eq.edu.au

Queensland

**Principal** Robyn Wilton

| Dear Pare              | ent,   |
|------------------------|--|
| Today yo               | ur child broke our school playground rules as follows:   |
| As a Lear              | ner I will:  |
| □ Be                   | e Safe   |
| ☐ Be                   | Respectful   |
| □ Be                   | e Responsible  |
| C                      | al consequence for this he/she was required to attend the Time Out room during part of his/her. Whilst there he/she reflected on his/her behaviour by discussing the matter with the teacher.  |
| our schoo<br>further w | positive supportive way in which school staff are seeking to change behaviour and thereby make all safer and happier for everyone. We ask that you support our efforts by discussing this matter ith your son/daughter and encourage them to abide by the rules in future. As parents, your is invaluable in helping us effect change and we thank you in anticipation of your co-operation. |
| with your              | e the space below if you would like to comment on the matter, or on the discussion that you have son/daughter. If you would like to discuss this matter further, please don't hesitate to contact the liministration.  |
| We also a information  | sk that you sign below and return this letter to school to inform us that you have received this on.   |
| Kind Rega              | ards   |
| The Staff              | at Thornlands SS   |
| COMMEN                 | NTS:   |
|                        |  |



# Behaviour Reflection

| Name   | Date:                                  | <del></del> |
|--|--|-------------|
| What did I do?                                     |  |             |
| what did 1 do?                                     |  |             |
|  |  |             |
| What rule did I break?                             |  |             |
|  |  |             |
| What happens when I break this                     | rule?                                  |             |
|  |  |             |
|  |  |             |
| What happens to others when I b                    | oreak this rule?                       |             |
|  |  |             |
|  |  |             |
| How will you change your behaviou<br>My plan is to | ur so it doesn't happen in the future? |             |
|  |  |             |
|  |  |             |
|  |  |             |
| cher Signature:                                    |  |             |
| cher Signature:                                    |  |             |

| Name:                                  | Date:                  |
|--|------------------------|
| What did I do? Write / Draw a          | How did it make others |
| picture.                               | feel?                  |
|  |                        |
|  |                        |
| What is the rule you broke? Circle one |                        |
| Be Safe:                               |                        |
| Be Responsible:                        |                        |
| Be Respectful:                         |                        |
|  |                        |

What will I do next time? Write / Draw a picture.

Parent Signature:





# The Use of Mobile Phones and Other Devices\* by Students at Thornlands State School

### **Students**

## **Background**

The incidents of mobile phones and other devices being brought to school is increasing. The security of these phones and other devices and their use has significant potential to cause disruption within the order of the school. This policy is a proactive endeavour to meet the needs within the school context and of families where there is genuine need for students to have a mobile phone in their possession.

It is recognised that there are incidents where parents have provided a mobile phone or other device to students for safety on the way home from school.

## **Implementation**

**Mobile phones or other devices** may be brought to school by students if the following requirements are adhered to:-

- Written consent of the student's parent must be received by the child's teacher if a student is to be in possession of a mobile phone or other device while at school. Parents may write a letter but will then be provided with the attached form, which must be completed.
- The phone is to be stored securely in the student's bag. Alternatively, (if the teacher is agreeable) students may leave the phone with their class teacher or at the office.
- The phone or other device must not be used throughout the school day, for calls or messaging, unless the consent of the child's teacher is forthcoming. Communication between home and school during the period when students are at school, must be done through the school office.

### Consequences

Failure to abide by these provisions will result in confiscation of the phone. It will be held at the school office for collection by the offending student's parents/caregiver. Only one warning for non- compliance with the policy will be given. A second offence will result in consent for a mobile phone to be on school premises, being withdrawn.

Inappropriate use by students, of any mobile phone or any personal technology device, will be dealt with in a manner consistent with the school's **Student Code of Conduct**.

\* Mobile phones and other devices includes, but is not limited to, mobile phones, smart watches, tablets, games devices (such as Portable gaming devices, IPods®, iPads, digital cameras and devices of a similar nature.



# APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL TO HAVE A MOBILE PHONE OR OTHER DEVICE ON SCHOOL PREMISES DURING THE SCHOOL DAY.

| Parent's name   |                               |               |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Student's name  |                               | Class         |
| I hereby request for my son / daughter to be in   | •                             |               |
| mobile phone or other device:   |                               |               |
| while at school for the following periods of time   | :- Daily ()                   |               |
| Or for specific dates   |                               |               |
| I have provided my child with the mobile phone  | or other device for the follo | owing uses :- |
|   |                               |               |
|   |                               |               |
|   |                               |               |
| The number of the mobile phone is   |                               |               |
| •   |                               |               |
| I have instructed my child on the appropriate expectations of the Thornlands State School Poschool accepts no responsibility for lost, stolen | olicy. I understand that whi  |               |
|   |                               |               |
| Parent/Caregiver  | Date                          | <del></del>   |
| Approval  | Balo                          |               |
| This request is approved  |                               |               |
| Class teacher   | Date                          | _             |
|   |                               |               |
| Deputy Principal  | Date                          |               |