



# St Cyprian's School

## SCHOOL CHARTER

The School Charter has been drawn up to make explicit the expectations of all stakeholders in the teaching/learning process. It is by no means a dictate or a comprehensive list of do's and don'ts but may be used to set the scene and contain expectations.

### Teachers

All teachers at the school subscribe to the SACE Code of Professional Ethics and to the school's own Code of Conduct for Staff. Inter alia, this means that staff will:

- be punctual, well-prepared and professional in their approach to education;
- manage student performance effectively and motivate Students to achieve realistic and meaningful personal and educational goals;
- be sensitive to the needs of their students;
- praise, encourage, recognise and reward students;
- create a classroom climate which is based on a learning partnership which makes education relevant and stimulating;
- set a positive example for their students to follow;
- administer discipline educatively, compassionately, and with dignity when necessary.

### Parents/guardians

While parents must expect the school and its teachers to provide the best possible education with the resources available to the school, they must also accept responsibility to help the school achieve this goal. Parents would thus have the responsibility to:

- actively support the efforts of the school and its teachers to teach their children;
- involve themselves to the fullest possible extent in school activities;
- support the disciplinary structures and procedures of the school, and the reasonable efforts by the school to apply discipline effectively and fairly;
- ensure that their child is at all compulsory attendance events;
- attend parent/teacher meetings;
- treat other parents with respect, courtesy and consciously strive to ensure all parents feel part of the St Cyprian's School Community;
- not remove their children from school during term time (or the weeks prior to or post holidays and long weekends, unless it is deemed absolutely necessary).

### Students

Constitutionally, all students have the right to an education. However, this right must be seen in the context of the responsibilities they have to their parents, the school, their teachers and their fellow students. These responsibilities include:

- honouring the values of the school, its ethos, its identity and the St Cyprian's School Code of Conduct;
- behaving responsibly so as not to endanger or interfere with the safety, welfare and rights of others;
- showing respect and care for the property of the school;
- working with the school to build an inclusive community of care; being courteous and

- showing respect for the dignity and self-worth of everybody;
- being punctual and observing the time-keeping practices of the school;
- demonstrating a positive attitude towards the opportunity to learn and being diligent in their efforts to learn;
- behaving in line with the values of respect and compassion, conducting themselves with integrity and understanding the meaning of accountability;
- not tolerating bullying in any form and standing up for what is right;
- accepting legitimate disciplinary measures taken against them as necessary.

## **Community**

The Anglican heritage and values-based culture of St Cyprian's School align well with the principles of our South African Constitution, as espoused in the Bill of Rights. We uphold the rights of students, staff and parents to enjoy an environment that is free from discrimination of any kind (race, gender, ethnic or social origin, sexual orientation). All members of the St Cyprian's School Community thus have the responsibility to create a culture of belonging by:

- identifying, challenging and eliminating racism or other forms of unfair discrimination within the school and its constituents;
- promoting an anti-racist, anti-bias, rights-based culture which has at its core respect for human dignity and diversity;
- engaging in conversations or participating in activities organised by the school that promote cross-cultural understanding and friendships;
- acknowledging the need for transformation (structural and personal) and the imperative to use privilege as a platform for the redress of the inequities of the past to build a better future, starting at school level.

(Updated May 2025)