

# Week 5 Update

04/03/2019 by Karen Poole

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**Naumai e te whanau o te kura Tawhai Tena koutou katoa**

## Learning Conversations

A big thank you to all our parents who have booked a Learning Conversation - it's not too late. Please either pop on the school interview site or give Kelly a ring at the office to book a time.

<http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/> and follow the 3 easy steps below:

1. Enter the Tawhai School booking code: **reswb**
2. Enter your name and email address.
3. Select your child's class from the list provided and choose a time that best suits you and your family.



[Online safety and recent media about the Momo Challenge - a very useful link with](#)

[information, tips and advice](#)

<https://www.netsafe.org.nz/momo-challenge-advisory-february-2019/>

## **Our Community Code Expectations**

As mentioned this term our focus is on embedding our school values and ensuring that everyone has a shared understanding about what they mean and how we demonstrate the values in different contexts. As adults in the school community it is also important that we practise the school values. The BOT would like to bring your attention to the School Doc policy "Our Community Code Expectations" which is effectively is our Code of Conduct.

### Community Conduct Expectations (copied from our School Docs site)

*Tawhai School is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for students, staff, and visitors.*

*Our Code of Conduct serves as a reminder to all parents, caregivers, and school visitors that their conduct must support everyone's emotional and physical wellbeing, and not harm it in any way. The school's board has set this Code of Conduct as a condition of entry.*

*The Code of Conduct applies:*

- *to all conduct, speech, and action; and includes emails, texts, phone calls, social media, or other communication*
- *while on school grounds or at another venue where students and/or staff are assembled for school purposes (such as a camp or sports match).*

### **Standards of conduct**

*Tawhai School expects parents, caregivers, and visitors to:*

- *treat everyone with respect*
- *work together in partnership with staff for the benefit of students*
- *respect and adhere to our school values*
- *set a good example for students at all times*
- *follow school procedures to handle any complaints*
- *adhere to school policies and procedures (such as those listed below), and any legal requirements.*

*Examples of unsuitable conduct include:*

- *threats, bullying, harassment*
- *profanity/offensive language*
- *insulting, abusing, or intimidating behaviour*
- *discrimination (e.g. based on ethnicity, religion)*
- *physical aggression*
- *deception/fraud*
- *damaging school property*
- *smoking, possessing or using alcohol/drugs/other harmful substances on school premises or*

*at another venue where students and/or staff are assembled for school purposes (except possession or use of alcohol in accordance with school policy)*

- *placing unreasonable and excessive expectations on staff time or resources*
- *pursuing a complaint or campaign, or making defamatory, offensive, or derogatory comments, regarding the school, its board, or any staff or students on social media or other public forums*
- *wearing gang insignia on the school grounds. (This is not allowed under the Prohibition of Gang Insignia legislation, and anyone wearing it will be asked to leave.)*

### **Dealing with breaches of the Code of Conduct**

*How Tawhai School deals with breaches of our Code of Conduct depends on the nature of the incident and its seriousness, and the process any witness or victim of the behaviour feels most comfortable with. Examples include:*

- *documenting each instance of behaviour, including the date, time, place, who was present, what was said (verbatim if possible), how any witness or victim felt and/or responded*
- *holding a meeting with the relevant person, the principal, and/or board chair (or their delegate) or appropriate staff member to discuss the problem and possible resolution*
- *issuing a warning letter that outlines the problem and required resolution, and reminds them of the possible outcomes of repeated conduct*
- *arranging a meeting, which may include restorative practices, as an alternative or in addition to the processes above.*

### **Outcomes of breaching the Code of Conduct**

*If a parent, caregiver, or visitor acts or speaks in a way that contravenes the Code of Conduct, possible outcomes may include:*

- *The school (principal, board member, or staff member) may ask a person to leave the school premises by revoking their permission to be on the school grounds, then asking them to leave under section 3 of the Trespass Act 1980.*
- *Unacceptable behaviour of a criminal nature may result in the police being informed. For example, under section 139C of the Education Act 1989, it is a criminal offence to assault, abuse, or intimidate a staff member within the presence or hearing of any student while on school premises or in any other place where students are assembled for school purposes. Other instances of criminal offending may occur where drugs are involved, an assault has occurred, or a person persists after being trespassed off school grounds.*
- *In the case of behaviour amounting to harassment, a restraining order may be sought.*
- *In some instances, it may be appropriate to refer behaviour to a third party for resolution. For example, a Facebook comment that contravenes this policy may result in a report to Facebook. If unacceptable behaviour occurs at a sports event or sports venue, then it may be appropriate to involve the governing body of that sport, event, or venue.*

## **School Doc reviews**

This term the BOT would like to invite parents to review the policy below

### [Alcohol/Drugs and Other Harmful Substances](#)

1. Visit the website <http://tawhai.schooldocs.co.nz/1893.htm>
2. Enter the username (tawhai) and password (partnership).
3. Follow the link to the relevant policy as listed.
4. Read the policy.
5. Click the Policy Review button at the top right-hand corner of the page.
6. Select the reviewer type "Parent".
7. Enter your name (optional).
8. Submit your ratings and comments.

If you don't have internet access, school office staff can provide you with printed copies of the policy and a review form.

Thank you for your on-going support.

Nga mihi nui

Karen Poole