

School Policy

Student Code of Conduct

Rationale

Avenues Education (AE) is a unique school and as such requires a distinctive Student Code of Conduct. As a multi-site school, AE works in partnership with both the Alfred Child and Youth Mental Health Service (ACYMHS) and the Eastern Health Child and Youth Mental Health Service (EHCYMHS).

AE teachers work with students in group programs, both with and without CYMHS clinicians, in the Adolescent Inpatient Unit and in their school environment in both Primary and Secondary schools across the Southern and Eastern Metropolitan Regions.

Aims

This Student Code of Conduct aims to provide guidelines which are applicable for students in a variety of settings and across a variety of circumstances.

The Code of Conduct is based on the principles that both staff and students have

- The right to be safe
- The right to work, learn and interact
- The right to feel valued and respected.

Across Site School Rules

Regardless of the setting, the following rules are outlined to guide baseline requirements in behaviour:

1. No illegal drug, or its use, is permitted at any of the school site properties, or at any school program, nor in transit to and from the ACYMHS and EHCYMHS Education sites.
2. Students are not to engage in behaviour that may threaten or cause damage to the physical or emotional wellbeing of other students, Avenues teachers or clinicians. This includes aggressive behaviour, provoking others, bullying, physical or verbal intimidation, violence or any other behaviour which makes others feel unsafe.
3. Students are not to engage in cyber bullying during the course of their involvement with Avenues Education.
Cyber bullying is defined as "Bullying that is carried out through an internet service, such as email, chat room, discussion group or instant messaging. It can also include bullying through mobile phone technologies such as short messaging service (SMS). Cyber bullying includes teasing, spreading rumours online, sending unwanted messages, or defamation."
4. Students are not to engage in behaviour that may cause damage to property or goods.
5. Students are not to hinder the learning of others to the best of their individual ability.
6. Students are not to smoke in school programs, or whilst on any school activity or outing.
7. Students must not bring any kind of weapon to a school program, or to any school activity.
8. Objectionable or obscene language is seriously discouraged.
9. Boundary areas as defined should be respected.
10. Individual site rules / rights / responsibilities as outlined should be followed.

ACYMHS COMMUNITY TEAMS

Students attending programs at the ACYMHS site are required to follow the Across Site Rules as outlined above.

In addition to these rules students who attend programs at ACYMHS are required to follow the client rights and responsibilities as outlined by the CYMHS Rights and Responsibilities Brochure. This document is attached as Appendix A.

ADOLESCENT INPATIENT UNIT

Students admitted to the Adolescent Inpatient Unit are required to follow the Across Site Rules as outlined above.

In addition to these rules students are required to abide by the Eastern Health CYMHS Inpatient Unit Code of Conduct. This document is attached as Appendix B.

EHCYMHS COMMUNITY TEAMS

Students attending programs in the EHCYMHS community teams are required to follow the Across Site Rules as outlined above.

In addition to these rules students who attend programs at in EHCYMHS are required to follow the client rights and responsibilities as outlined by the CYMHS Rights and Responsibilities Brochure. This document is attached as Appendix A.

GROUPWORX

Students attending programs at groupworx are required to follow the Across Site Rules as outlined above.

In addition to these rules, students and staff are required to follow the EH Management of Aggression Standard and to meet the Day Program Agreement. These are attached as Appendix C & D respectively.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES

The purpose of the student code of conduct is to:

- Provide a safe learning environment for students, staff and clinicians
- Enable the resolution of discipline matters at a school level
- Promote a healthy school culture that permits high levels of progress and personal achievement.

RESPONSE TO BEHAVIOUR IN BREACH OF RULES

Responses to unacceptable behaviour will be considered individually and with reference to the agreed goals of the student and the general Code of Conduct.

The following procedure is to be applied to behaviour which is in breach of the above rules:

1. Discussion and a warning to the student about the unacceptable behaviour. Staff will discuss positive strategies about coping with and circumventing the presenting problem.
2. A warning followed by Time Out. Time Out is to be used for:
 - a) agreed cooling down strategy
 - b) time to reflect on behaviour
 - c) time to discuss issues with staff.
3. Education Staff will facilitate mediation between dissenting students in order to resolve conflict.
4. Review of student's individual goals and the goals of the program.
5. Any threat of assault or actual assault is considered assault and may result in the student being charged.

At groupwork teachers will follow the Managing Challenging Behaviour Flowchart. Document attached as Appendix E.

EXTREME BEHAVIOUR

Extreme behaviour is defined as behaviour causing injury to others or extreme non-compliance with staff.

In a hospital setting and groupwork staff will follow emergency code responses as outlined by the hospital.

In cases of extreme behaviour where a student poses a risk or danger to others or themselves, the above procedure will not be followed.

Teachers will

1. Ensure safety of all students and staff
2. Notify the Principal
3. Notify the Case Manager
4. Notify the Parents / carers
5. Hold a meeting to give the student the opportunity to redress and re-commit to their individual goals and reiterate the Student Code of Conduct.

Teachers may:

1. Contact police
2. Exclude the student from the program for a specified time.

Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

Ratification of Policy

This policy was adopted at School Council at Box Hill on 24 February 2017.

Signed:
School Council President

Signed:
Principal



Appendix A - Alfred
CYMHS



Appendix B - AIPU



Appendix C - EH



Appendix D -



Appendix E -

Aggression Standard groupwork AgreemerChallenging Behaviour