



St. Columba's College

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# Parents' Charter

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Person Responsible for updating policy: The Warden

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## Introduction

At St. Columba's College we believe that the success of our pupils can only take place when there is a positive partnership between teachers, staff, pupils and parents. In order to fulfil our obligations to you and your child, and to maintain a constructive relationship with you, the College needs your cooperation in fulfilling your own obligations.

To ensure that parents fully understand their role and responsibilities in this partnership we outline them below.

The College's five values of **Kindness, Compassion, Inclusion, Responsibility** and **Determination** should underpin the behaviour of all members of the College community.

## Parent Obligations

By enrolling my child at St. Columba's I affirm that I will:

- Model The College's values for my children in my own behaviours.
- Support the Christian ethos of the College by ensuring my child is in attendance for chapel services.

- Abide by and support the operation of all policies and guidelines approved by the Board of Management and published by the College ([Link to: Policies](#)) including in particular the following:
  - 1. Child Protection Policy
  - 2. Anti-bullying Policy and Procedures
  - 3. Digital Device and Social Media Policy
- Actively contribute to the positive atmosphere of the College, respecting the diversity of our community, and honouring personal perspectives and moral values. Where I perceive areas for improvement, I will provide constructive feedback and suggestions in a reasonable manner.
- Ensure that before my child starts at the College, I will provide the relevant history and current status of my child's health/medical conditions or special educational needs. I will not withhold information concerning any aspect of physical or mental health, or special educational needs, and will ensure timely notification of any changes or developments in this regard.
- Demonstrate respect and consideration in all interactions and communications with College community members including staff, fellow parents and pupils. I will treat people with dignity, act responsibly and honestly, and assume positive intent and good faith.
  - Practise principled communications, seek clarity from the person closest to an issue, follow the appropriate communication chain, and where a matter is unresolved follow the Complaints Procedure.
  - Enthusiastically support the College sports teams, but refrain from disparaging referees or opposing teams, or their supporters.
  - Understand that insulting, harassing, discriminatory, aggressive or otherwise offensive language or behaviour will not be tolerated.
- Trust and allow the College staff to manage and guide the day-to-day life of my child within the community.
  - Encourage my child to develop agency and independence in resolving problems themselves and/or with support from their Housemistress or Housemaster.
  - Understand that staff cannot discuss with me issues regarding the children of other parents.
- Meet my financial obligations to the College in a timely manner.
  - If financial problems arise, I will engage early and work with the Bursar to develop a solution.
- *Where applicable: Ensure that Guardians of overseas based pupils understand their responsibilities in the event of illness or emergency (such as providing accommodation out of school if required).*