## SAREPTA PRIMARY SCHOOL

## CODE OF CONDUCT

#### General Rules

- 1. It is compulsory for all learners to wear the official school uniform.
- 2. The hair of girls must be braided and tied with a white or blue ribbon.
- 3. The hair of boys must be kept short and must always be kept neatly.
- 4. The fingernails of all learners must be kept short and clean.
- 5. The use of nail polish by learners is forbidden.
- 6. Boys may not wear any jewellery.
- 7. Only girls will be allowed to wear "studs" in their ears.

#### Conduct

- 1. No back chatting by any learner will be tolerated.
- 2. Respect must at all times be shown toward educators, fellow learners, non-teaching staff and all other persons in the school ground.
- 3. Fighting, pushing and shoving would not be allowed in lines, classrooms or in school grounds.
- 4. No running under the verandahs, on the steps and in the quad.
- 5. The change of classes must occur orderly and it is expected of learners to walk in an orderly fashion on the left hand side.
- 6. No chewing of bubble or chewing-gum would be allowed.
- 7. No lateness regarding the start of the school day, change of classes and excursions would be tolerated.
- 8. Regular school attendance is compulsory.
- 9. A doctor's certificate or a legitimate letter from the parents is compulsory as proof of absence.
- 10. Learners are expected to play only in designated areas; not in the parking area.
- 11. The riding of bicycles are prohibited in the school grounds.

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#### Punishment

Punishment is a corrective measure or the direct punishment inflicted on a transgressor who will bear the consequences of misconduct in order for the orderly existence of the school community to be maintained.

#### CORPORAL PUNISHMENT MAY NOT BE APPLIED

And is inconsistent with the S.A. Schools Act, Act No 84 of 1996.

## Offences

### PREVENTATIVE AND CORRECTIVE MEASURES

In the event of lesser offences corrective measures may be applied.

These measures may include one or more of the following:

- 1. Verbal warning or written reprimand by an educator or the school manager.
- 2. Detention where school work would be done under supervision and which would contribute to the progress of the learner at school or the improvement of the school environment, on condition that the parents be informed timeously and that the safety of the child is secured.
- 3. The execution of tasks which would serve as compensation and support for the person against whom the transgression has been directed. The parties will agree on affordable compensation for damages.
- 4. The replacement of damaged property.
- 5. Suspension from certain school activities, e.g. sport, cultural activities, etc.

## Typical Offences

#### Level 1

Less serious; not intentional.

Educator handles with discretion which would include detention as corrective measure.

- 1. Talk in class.
- 2. Eat/run in the building.
- Lateness.
- 4. Ignore announcements or answer slips.
- Bad attitude.
- 6. Pushing and shoving.
- 7. Back chatting/arrogance/littering
- 8. Unfinished homework/books or work left at home.
- 9. Offensive behaviour/seriously untidy or shoddy.
- 10. Riding a bicycle in the school grounds.

#### Level 2

Intentional/Challenging or dishonest in nature: Serious steps are taken.

- 1. Absence from practices/matches without notice.
- 2. Bad sportsmanship/impertinence/intimidation.
- 3. Intentional disruption/swearing and abusive language use.
- 4. Copying of some else's homework.
- 5. Indecent language and behaviour amongst friends.
- 6. Damage to property (less serious cases).
- 7. Fighting and physical assault.
- 8. Bullying, belittlement or threatening behaviour.
- 9. Disturbing some else's property/general dishonesty.

#### Level 3

Serious offences: The Governing Body is notified.

- 1. Racial and insulting remarks.
- 2. Graffiti/vandalism.
- 3. Damage to property (serious in nature).
- 4. Dirty language and bad behaviour towards older people.
- 5. Sexual harassment (verbal).

#### Level 4

Exceedingly Serious Offences: Governing Body and WCED are notified.

- 1. Dishonesty in tests and examinations.
- 2. Theft.
- 3. Poor behaviour in public while in school uniform.
- 4. In possession of pornography.
- 5. Sexual misconduct/harassment (physical).
- 6. Racism.
- 7. Use of drugs, strong liquor or cigarettes.

#### Serious Misconduct and the Law

Serious misconduct, which may include offences according to Law, must be investigated by the police and, if necessary, referred to court.

Serious misconduct must be handled according to the government notices and regulations, which are promulgated by the Member of the Executive Committee in the Provincial Gazette of the Western Cape Province.

In the event of the Governing Body experiencing difficulties in the interpretation of the guidelines and regulations, they will seek the guidance of the Head of the Department of the Western Cape Province.

## Disciplinary Action

### Applicable to Level 2 to 4 Offences.

- 1. Any learner who are charged of having transgressed any rule requiring suspension or expulsion from school, must be brought before the School Manager.
- 2. The School Manager will listen to evidence and then decide on a plan of action.
- 3. Such action will include that the School Manager informs the parents in writing of the action and of the learning by a small Decision-making Board, consisting of members appointed by the Governing Body.
- 4. This Decision-making Board will not intimidate the learner.
- 5. In the case of very young learners, special arrangements must be made for the hearing.
- 6. The parents or guardians may represent the learners.

## Refer to Government Gazette, 15 May 1998.

#### Level 1

# PROGRESSIVE ACTION WILL BE TAKEN IN CASES OF LESS SERIOUS OFFENCES, AS IN LEVEL 1 OFFENCES.

- 1. Three verbal warnings.
- 2. A first written warning.
- 3. A second written warning. School Manager and parents sign the documents (letter and agreements reached).

#### Level 2

- 1. Letter to parents ("summons").
- 2. Interview with parents in the office of the principal. Educator, learner, parents and School Manager present.
- 3. Further action is discussed.

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#### Level 3

# LEVEL 3 OFFENCES ARE PRIMARILY HANDLED BY THE SCHOOL MANAGER AND THE MANAGEMENT TEAM.

- 1. Parents, School Manager and Governing Body are immediately informed.
- 2. Interview with parents in School Manager's office. Educator, learner, parents and School Manager to be present.
- 3. Punishment and possible remedial steps to be discussed with regards to the problem.
- 4. The services of e.g. the School Psychological Services and S.A. Police Services may be considered.

Suspension and Expulsion:	The Western Cape Education Department are formally informed by the School Manager.	
Refer to Government Gazette, 15 May 1998.		

Chairman (SGB)	:	
Principal	: Mr J.R. Solomons	Date: