



Introduction

Every member of the Darwin School Board is expected to comply with this code of conduct. The code specifies the expected standards of Board members and is intended to promote and maintain the highest standard of ethical behaviour amongst members.

Integrity and impartiality

Board members:

- act honestly, in good faith and in the best interests of Darwin High School.
- make fair, transparent, robust and consistent decisions.
- at all times act lawfully and within the boundaries of the Board's Constitution, the *Education Act* (NT) and Northern Territory Government policies and directions.
- declare any conflicts of interest and abstain from deliberations and decisions in respect of any contract or arrangement in which they are financially interested.

Commitment

Members commit to:

- engaging with the school community, its partners and stakeholders in a manner that is consultative, respectful and fair.
- establishing and supporting school priorities as set out in the Business Plan and other official school policies and decisions, and considering matters in a professional and impartial manner.

Conscientiousness

As far as possible, members attend all meetings of the Board, and, in the event that they are prevented from attending any meeting of the Board, they provide notification of their absence in advance of the meeting and, if possible, provide feedback or input on items scheduled for discussion. Members with more than three consecutive absences without notification will have their membership of the Board reviewed.

Members invest the time and effort required to fulfil their duties as a member by pre-reading materials, participating fully in meetings and undertaking diligent analysis of all proposals placed before the Board.

Members treat the other members of the Board, staff of the school the school community and stakeholders with respect. They conduct Board business politely and with consideration for others, respecting the views and opinions of others, even if those views and opinions are different from their own.

Accountability and transparency

Board members:

- treat official information as confidential and use it only for the purpose for which it was provided.
- do not use confidential or privileged information to gain personal advantage or an advantage for a third party, or to cause detriment to the school.
- recognise their accountability to the school community and provide appropriate information on the school and Board's performance regularly.

Office bearers

- Shall carry out enthusiastically and competently the duties assigned to the position.
- Shall undertake any training necessary for the performance of their duties.

Endorsed February 2016