SHOALHAVEN HIGH SCHOOL

Providing Quality Education in a Caring, Supportive Environment

With the introduction of a new school uniform in 2015, staff at Shoalhaven High School (SHS) saw the opportunity to reinforce our core values of respect, responsibility, safety and participation. As a result of this, SHS will focus on the students RIGHT to learn and the teachers RIGHT to teach.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STUDENT RIGHTS</th>
<th>TEACHER RIGHTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. The right to an education that is free from interference from outside influences</td>
<td>1. The right to teach all students the curriculum and help them achieve course outcomes</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. The right to an education that is safe, happy and prepares us for life</td>
<td>2. The right to develop a positive classroom setting to encourage all students to succeed</td>
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<td>3. The right to an inclusive education that comprises various educational opportunities to encourage all students to achieve</td>
<td>3. The right to extend all students so that they reach full potential</td>
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<td>4. The right to leave school and transition into the workforce, further education and be active members of society</td>
<td>4. The right to help all students be prepared for their future (further education or employment)</td>
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In order for us as a school to achieve these fundamental educational rights for staff and students we expect the following:

1. Staff and students are expected to treat each other with respect. Respect can be demonstrated by: allowing personal space, being friendly and polite, listening to others, respecting the classroom as a place for learning and wearing correct school uniform.

2. Staff and students are expected to take responsibility for their actions and education. Responsibility can be demonstrated by: being on time to all classes, being prepared with the correct equipment for all lessons, following school rules and acting with care and consideration.

3. Staff and students are expected to promote a learning environment that focuses on safety for all members of the school. Safety can be demonstrated by: remaining seated in all classes, walking in corridors and using equipment for intended purposes.

4. Staff and students are expected to encourage participation to the best of one’s ability in aspects of school life. Participation can be demonstrated by: wearing full and correct school uniform for each lesson, listening and following instructions, being involved, completing all class work and submitting all assessments on time.

SHS will be determined to achieve our school motto “Aiming Higher” for all students in 2015 and beyond. To ensure our school reaches this goal we have identified some focus areas for us as a school community to improve on. These areas and appropriate actions that school will undertake are outlined below:

**Focus Area 1: Threatening Behaviour**

This includes verbal abuse of staff, physical intimidation of staff and students and physical violence. The school will have a ZERO tolerance on this type of behaviour. Any student found to verbally abuse staff (swearing in any form at staff members, physical intimidation of staff or other students or engage in physical violence of any form will be suspended from school in accordance with the departments student discipline in government schools document. While suspended, the student will complete a reflection plan which will be discussed at the resolution meeting following the suspension. The student will be required to attend a suspension resolution with the parent/careers, Deputy Principal, Head Teacher and teacher that were involved in the incident leading to the suspension. The student WILL be required to RESOLVE the issue prior to returning to school.
Focus Area 2: Defiance

Defiance is the non-compliance of students to follow staff instructions in the learning environment. Defiance encompasses numerous behaviours. These include but are not limited to: inappropriate use of mobile phone, failure to follow staff instruction, disruption to the learning of others, failure to bring correct equipment (including PE/Sport uniform and practical subject equipment requirements) and failure to complete consequences issued due to inappropriate classroom behaviours. The process for dealing with the defiance of students that interfere with the teacher’s right to teach and the students’ right to learn is outlined below:

1. Inappropriate behaviour identified and consequences issued (detentions)
2. Failure to attend teacher detentions twice, results in a HT detention
3. Failure to attend HT detention twice, results in 5 day DP detention.
4. If a student misses a day of detention they are placed on a caution to suspend for defiance, and must complete 5 consecutive days of DP detention whilst present at school.
5. If a student misses/chooses not to attend DP detention at this point, then they will be suspended from school for continued disobedience
6. Student completes reflection plan, resolves detention and rectifies detention upon return from suspension. The student must take RESPONSIBILITY for the behaviour that leads to the suspension.

Focus Area 3: Truancy

Truancy is when a student misses ANY part of a lesson for a non-valid reason. This may include: not going to the class at all, leaving the class early without permission, arriving late to class after breaks or in between periods. It is essential for all students to be in class on time to help us reach our goals as a school community. Any student found to have truanted or partially truanted 3 times within a fortnightly cycle will be placed on attendance monitoring (yellow card). The following process explains the school’s response to truanting:

1. Truants (partial or whole) classes 3 times within a fortnight will be placed on attendance monitoring with the HT Administration for a period of 10 school days.
2. If a student truants within this period they will be placed on a caution to suspend for defiance and placed on DP detentions. They will re-start attendance monitoring and complete for a period of 10 school days. Once completed the issue is resolved.
3. Failure to fulfil any of the above requirements may lead to further disciplinary action.

Focus Area 4: Uniform

Our school has introduced a new school uniform in 2015. Only years 7 and 11 are required to purchase the new uniform, but other years are welcome to attend school in the new uniform. Students in years 8, 9, 10 and 12 are still able to wear the previous uniform. Students must be in either the previous or the new uniform. Wearing of correct school uniform has been endorsed by the school P&C and it is an expectation that all students abide by this endorsement and wear the correct uniform. Wearing correct school uniform is a safety concern and ensures your children are safe and protected while at school. Failure to wear correct school uniform will be a focus area of 2015 and be investigated on case by case situations. Students may be asked to remove non-uniform jumpers, isolated from the playground during recess and lunch to ensure safety and identification of students or if the behaviour is persistent other discipline measures may apply from the senior executive of the school.

Shoalhaven High School, in conjunction with parents/caregivers and community members will recognise the extraordinary talents and positive behaviour demonstrated by the majority of our students. Your children, our students, will be rewarded in various ways such as merit assemblies, PBS awards, prizes and draws for positive behaviours demonstrated at school or while representing the school in the wider community. Our positive focus areas will include: high levels of attendance, excellent classroom participation, school representation, behaviour in the class and the playground, citizenship and preparedness to wear correct uniform each and every day.

In partnership with the school you can expect that that SHS will help your children achieve their educational and career orientated goals, as well as become active and participating members of our wider community.