

About the Code

The **Safe Schools NT** Code of Behaviour outlines:

- the rights of all people to be treated with respect and dignity
- the rights of all students to learn
- the rights of teachers to teach
- the rights of all to be safe.

The Code reinforces the belief that all school staff can expect to be safe at all times. Parents are expected to conduct themselves accordingly. Any aggressive or violent behaviour will not be tolerated and will be reported to the police. Likewise, students will face serious consequences for aggressive, abusive or violent behaviour, threats, acts of vandalism, carrying weapons and other illegal acts. Consequences could include mandatory suspension and/or police involvement.

The Code is supported by schools' own wellbeing and behaviour policies and a range of resources including a website and other educational materials for students and teachers.

Everyone has the right to feel safe at school

Find out more

Contact your school for a copy of the Safe Schools NT Code of Behaviour or to find out more about your school's wellbeing and behaviour policy. The Code and other information are also available at www.safeschools.nt.gov.au

DEPARTMENT OF
**EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION
AND TRAINING**

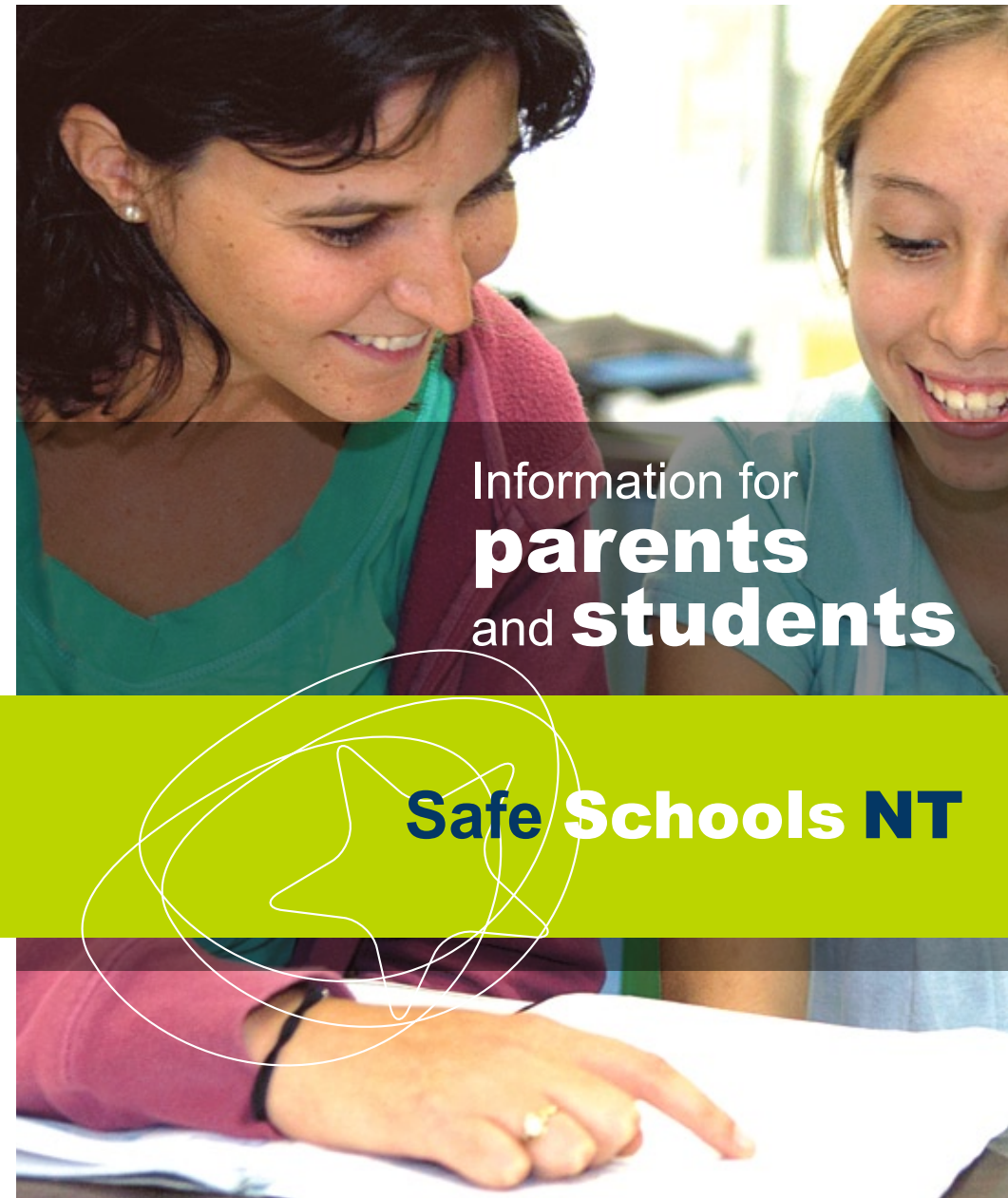
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Information for
parents
and **students**

Safe Schools NT

From the Minister

The Northern Territory Government's determination to improve student outcomes across the Territory is underpinned by the essential belief that schools must be safe places in which to learn and to work.

Dangerous or illegal acts will not be tolerated and there will be serious consequences for anyone whose behaviour threatens the safety of others.

The Safe Schools NT Code of Behaviour, developed in consultation with a range of stakeholders including community groups and professional associations, affirms the right of everybody to feel safe at school. The Code is supported by schools' own wellbeing and behaviour policies, taking account of the diversity and unique qualities of each school community in the Territory. The Code applies to students, parents, teachers and other school staff.

Together with other Northern Territory Government initiatives such as the Accountability and Performance Improvement Framework and Remote Learning Partnerships, the Safe Schools NT Code of Behaviour will help to create safer and more effective learning environments for young Territorians and their educators.

Ms Marion Scrymgour MLA
Minister for Employment, Education and Training.

Expectations of parents/ carers and students

The Safe Schools NT Code of Behaviour outlines expectations of parents, carers and students.

Parents/carers are expected to:

- ensure their child attends schools regularly, on time, prepared and ready to learn
- support school staff in maintaining a safe and respectful learning environment
- initiate and maintain constructive communication with school staff.

Students are expected to:

- come to school prepared, on time and ready to learn
- participate actively in the school's educational program
- take responsibility for their own behaviour and learning
- behave in a way that respects the rights and property of others
- cooperate with staff and others in authority
- refrain from bringing anything to school that may compromise safety.

Teachers and school staff are expected to:

- ensure consistency and fairness in implementing the *School Wellbeing and Behaviour Policy*
- provide safe and supportive learning environments
- initiate and maintain constructive communication and relationships with students and parents/carers
- promote the skills of responsible self-management with students
- comply with mandatory reporting guidelines

Unacceptable behaviour in our schools

The following behaviour will not be tolerated in our schools:

- physical or verbal abuse
- sexual assault
- intimidation and threats
- bullying and harassment including cyber bullying
- possession or use of a weapon
- possessing or trafficking in illicit drugs or being under the influence of illicit drugs
- possessing or being under the influence of alcohol or providing alcohol to others
- possessing or supplying tobacco products or smoking on school grounds
- vandalism
- stealing
- obscene or offensive acts.

Consequences for breaching the Code

Depending on the seriousness of the breach of the Code, schools may use the following:

- time out strategies
- withdrawal of privileges
- detention
- restorative processes
- reflective thinking rooms
- mediation
- suspension
- police involvement.

In determining consequence, schools will consider individual circumstances and apply the principles of natural justice.