

## DISCIPLINE POLICY

### PURPOSE

The purpose of the Discipline Policy is to ensure that a positive and productive learning environment is maintained for all students. The policy ensures that matters relating to student discipline are dealt with quickly and effectively, based on principles of procedural fairness.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following related policies and documents:

- *Behaviour Support and Management;*
- *Suspension and Expulsion Policy and Procedure; and*
- *Student Code of Conduct - Sign Off Form.*

### POLICY

1. Students are required to abide by the *Student Code of Conduct - Sign Off Form* and to follow the directions of teachers and other people with authority delegated by the Indie School.
2. Where a student disregards rules, disobeys instructions or otherwise engages in conduct that causes or may cause harm, inconvenience or embarrassment to the school, staff members or other students, the students may be subject to disciplinary action.
3. The disciplinary procedures undertaken by the school vary according to the seriousness of the alleged offence. Where the allegation, if proved, may result in suspension or expulsion, the student and parents will be informed of the allegations and procedural steps to be followed in dealing with the matter. In relation to all matters to be investigated, students will be informed of the nature of the allegation and given an opportunity to respond to the allegations.
4. The penalties imposed vary according to the behaviour and the prior record of the student. At the lower end of the scale, an admonition or detention may be appropriate. At the upper end of the scale, the behaviour could result in suspension or expulsion.
5. The school prohibits the use of corporal punishment in disciplining students.
6. The school does not explicitly or implicitly sanction the administering of corporal punishment by non-school persons, including parents, to enforce discipline at the school.
7. Where the offending behaviour is of such a nature that it may result in suspension or expulsion, the student will be:
  - informed of the alleged infringement;
  - informed as to who will make the decision on the penalty;
  - informed of the procedures to be followed, which will include an opportunity to have a parent or guardian present when responding to the allegations; and
  - afforded a right of appeal.
8. The Head of School/Lead Teacher will reach a decision in relation to the allegation and recommend the penalty to be imposed to the Executive Principal. The parents/guardians will be informed of the finding and the recommendation, and may make representations to the Executive Principal in respect of these. The Executive Principal then makes a final decision.