

## **RATIONALE**

We are committed to the safety and wellbeing of all our students. This Code of Conduct is designed to underwrite that commitment. Please read it in conjunction with our Terms and Conditions and Anti-Bullying Policy.

We seek to be a truly inclusive environment, where young people of all backgrounds have the opportunity to become part of a wider family; where our company values of Confidence, Community and Creativity are fostered and rewarded.

The Code of Conduct sets out clearly our expectations for how everyone at YOUTH DRAMA should behave and interact with each other, encouraging individuals to act safely and responsibly, with mutual respect and understanding, in a trusting and trusted environment.

We are human, and we know we do not always get it right. We know that getting it wrong is a natural (even essential) part of the growth process, especially for young people. This Code of Conduct is not about punishing people for getting it wrong, but about making a shared commitment to getting it right.

## **Your child can help us achieve this by committing to 5 Principles in sessions:**

1. Be present, in the here and now
2. Practice directing and sustaining your attention
3. Be mindful of yourself, each other, and the environment
4. Take responsibility for your decisions
5. Stay positive: failures are opportunities for growth

## **What we ask of Staff**

- Prioritise safety, wellbeing and enjoyment of all students
- Be aware of all additional needs among students
- Know the Code of Conduct and apply it consistently
- Ensure students know the Code of Conduct, and refer to it often
- Challenge behaviour which risks safety, wellbeing and enjoyment
- Seek to be inclusive, giving additional support where required

## **What we ask of parents**

- Keep us informed of your child's circumstances and needs
- Communicate with YOUTH DRAMA to ensure all concerns are addressed.
- Help us to balance your child's needs with the needs of their group.
- Let us know anything you think we could be doing better

## **CODE OF CONDUCT IN ACTION**

**When a student breaks the Code of Conduct, it may be due to:**

- Not knowing, or forgetting the Code of Conduct
- Discomfort or anxiety when participating in certain activities
- Outside events affecting emotions and behaviours
- Incidents in class affecting emotions and behaviours
- Underlying learning and behavioural needs

## **If a student breaks the Code of Conduct, the teacher will:**

- Remind the student about the Code of Conduct
- Specify the element which has been broken
- Give the student the chance to reflect and to explain themselves
- Clarify why commitment to the Code is crucial to participation
- Ask the student to commit to that element as part of their learning

## **If a student continues to break the Code of Conduct, the teacher will:**

- Offer “time out” as an alternative to participation in the activity
- Provide an alternative independent activity
- Positively encourage a way back for students to re-engage
- Report the incident to the Leadership Team
- Communicate with parents to create a Re-engagement Plan
- Monitor the student’s ongoing participation in classes.

## **If a student breaks their Re-engagement Plan:**

Senior Leadership Team will carefully consider matters and discuss with parents whether YOUTH DRAMA is an appropriate choice for their child, with particular reference to safety, wellbeing and enjoyment of all participants.

We will always aim to be inclusive for all, and we will always offer a way back for students who have more difficulty following our Code of Conduct. However, we will not allow individuals to undermine the safety, wellbeing and enjoyment of others in the group.

We reserve the right to exclude any child if their actions remain incompatible with the safety, well-being and enjoyment of others.

Last Reviewed: January 2023

Next Review: January 2024