

STUDENT CODE

Version	1.01	Number of pages	7
Responsible officer	Vice-Principal (Students and Community)		
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Approved by	Morling College Board		
Keywords	Student; Code; Conduct; Behaviour; Community Code; Expectations; Agreement; Misconduct; Grievance		
Access level <i>Select from the drop-down menu</i>	Public		
Dissemination Range	Students, Staff		
Approval date	November 2023		
Effective date	November 2023		
Review date	November 2026		
Superseded documents	Student Code of Conduct Policy V3.02 Student Rights and Responsibilities V.300 Community Code 2023		
Compliance Standard	HES_7.2.2.c		
Document classification <i>Select from the drop-down menu</i>	Student Services and Administration		

1. PURPOSE

The Student Code provides a statement of:

- 1.1 The values and principles that shape Morling College (MC).
- 1.2 MC's commitments to students with respect to providing a welcoming, supportive, and safe environment to conduct learning, teaching and research.
- 1.3 The obligations, responsibilities, and expectations of students in respect to academic, administrative, community and personal behaviour. Students must meet all these standards of behaviour as they participate in MC activities.

2. DEFINITIONS

Key Term or Acronym	Definition
ACT	Australian College of Theology
MC	Morling College
Morling Cohort	Relates to MC students and staff.
Morling Community	Relates to MC students and staff, MRC and Morling Village residents, and all others engaging with MC, including visitors, contractors and volunteers.

3. SCOPE

This code applies to all students enrolled at MC.

This code applies to students studying cross institutionally at another educational institution while enrolled at MC.

In addition to this code, some faculties or programs may have specific additional responsibilities and ethical standards relating to internships, practicums, and other professional placements.

4. GUIDING VALUES AND PRINCIPLES

- 4.1 MC's vision, mission, values, curriculum, and community life are formed by a firm commitment to the person and work of Jesus Christ as declared in the Bible. This identity and allegiance shape the educational community of staff and the Morling Cohort.
- 4.2 MC is rooted in the evangelical Baptist tradition, with a commitment to pursue truth and excellence with grace and diligence, treating people and ideas with love and respect, thinking critically and constructively about complex issues, and willingly responding to the world's most profound needs and greatest opportunities.
- 4.3 Being a part of the Morling Cohort involves a commitment to embody attitudes and to practise actions identified in the Bible as good, and to avoid those which are not. Such a distinctly Christian way of living finds its fullest expression in Christian love, which was exemplified fully by Jesus Christ, and is characterised by humility, self-sacrifice, mercy and justice, and mutual submission for the good of others. Members of the Morling Cohort, therefore, commit themselves to:
 - 4.3.1 Cultivate Christian virtues, such as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control, compassion, humility, forgiveness, peacemaking, mercy and justice.
 - 4.3.2 Live lives characterised by honesty, civility, truthfulness, generosity, and integrity.
 - 4.3.3 Communicate in ways that build others up, according to their needs, for the benefit of all.
 - 4.3.4 Treat all persons with respect and dignity and uphold their God-given worth from conception to death.
 - 4.3.5 Be above reproach in the area of sexual relationships; where the Bible upholds sexual intimacy between a male and female only, within marriage.
 - 4.3.6 Be responsible citizens both locally and globally who respect authorities, submit to the laws of this country insofar as conscience permits, and contribute to the welfare of creation and society.
 - 4.3.7 Exercise careful judgement in all lifestyle choices within the context of Christian discipleship and take responsibility for personal choices and their impacts on others.

- 4.3.8 Encourage and support others in their pursuit of these values and ideals, while extending forgiveness and healing to one another.
- 4.4 Members of the Morling Cohort place ourselves under obligations to one another. We enter into an agreement and a relational bond whereby we accept reciprocal benefits and mutual responsibilities, identifying particular Christian standards and recognising degrees of latitude for individual freedom.
- 4.5 A heightened level of discernment and sensitivity is appropriate within a Christian educational community such as MC. We acknowledge, in particular, that people face significant challenges in practising biblical sexual morality within a highly sexualised culture. A biblical view of sexual morality holds that a person's decisions regarding his or her body are physically, spiritually, and emotionally inseparable. Such decisions affect a person's ability to live out God's intention for wholeness in relationship to God, to others, and to oneself.

5. MC'S COMMITMENT TO STUDENTS

Students can expect:

Community

- 5.1 To be treated equitably with courtesy and respect by all staff and students.
- 5.2 For all staff to adhere to the Staff Code of Conduct.
- 5.3 Respectful and purposeful unity that aims for the advancement of all, recognising the diversity of viewpoints, life journeys, stages of maturity, and roles within the Morling Cohort.
- 5.4 Fairness and justice in accordance with the principles of natural justice in all dealings with MC.

Learning and Teaching

- 5.5 Courses that are academically rigorous and compliant in accordance with our accrediting bodies, with high quality teaching and engagement.
- 5.6 Clearly stated learning outcomes and assessment details for all courses and units.
- 5.7 Appropriate academic support at all stages of their studies including reasonable access to the lecturer responsible to discuss problems and concerns.
- 5.8 Accurate, accessible, complete, and timely return of graded assignments submitted, with feedback on the assignment that serve as a guide for the student's continued studies.
- 5.9 Timely accessible, accurate and appropriately moderated final unit grades.

Student Services, records, and support

- 5.10 Support services which consider the requirements of all students.

- 5.11 Appropriate concern and attention to students' physical, social, emotional, and psychological wellbeing.
- 5.12 Accurate, accessible, complete, and timely information about grievance policy and procedures.
- 5.13 Accurate, accessible, complete, and timely information about all issues related to their studies and ready access to all relevant policies, procedures and advice.
- 5.14 Confidentiality, integrity, and security of student records.

6. STUDENT OBLIGATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Students have the following obligations and responsibilities:

Administrative behaviour

- 6.1 Ensure that they understand and comply with all course and unit requirements, and all policies and procedures that relevant to them.
- 6.2 Supply accurate information, including maintaining up to date contact details, to MC and keep this information current.
- 6.3 Pay all fees and charges on time.
- 6.4 For international students, maintain compliance with their student visa conditions.

Academic behaviour

- 6.5 Pursue their studies with integrity and diligence with an aim to grow in wisdom, spiritual maturity, knowledge, and experience. This includes to:
 - 6.5.1 Take responsibility for their own learning and make genuine attempts to progress successfully through their course.
 - 6.5.2 Actively engage with all learning materials and learning and teaching activities according to their enrolled mode of study.
 - 6.5.3 Act honestly and ethically, upholding the highest standards of academic integrity.
- 6.6 Plan their workload, so that assignments can be completed by the due dates. While MC recognises the constraints under which many students work, students are expected to develop realistic work patterns that take account of these constraints so that they do not run into a 'traffic jam' of work.
- 6.7 Respect the views and opinions of others and maintain confidentiality and privacy.
- 6.8 Engage in discussions and learning activities with respect and civility, especially when discussing issues where there is genuine diversity of opinion or belief.
- 6.9 Conduct themselves in a professional and ethical manner while undertaking practicums, placements or action-reflection experiences and respect the

confidentiality of any information made available as part of the practical learning activity.

6.10 Notify the Director of Student Services or a lecturer as soon as possible if difficulties arise that cause substantial disruption to study, e.g. absences, inability to complete an assessment.

6.11 Seek advice and assistance from MC staff if required.

Community and personal behaviour

6.12 Reflect and adhere to the values and principles of MC.

6.13 Treat all members of the Morling Community with respect, dignity, honesty, impartiality, and courtesy, irrespective of gender, race, disability, medical condition, cultural background, age, etc.

6.14 Remember that, like themselves, staff are fallible humans who frequently carry a heavy workload, and so give reasonable opportunity to rectify any occasional mistakes or omissions that may occur. Persistent, repeated mistakes, omissions, or failures to meet expected standards should be made a matter for official complaint.

6.15 Use MC property and resources including communication technology resources cooperatively, responsibly, legally, sustainably, ethically, and appropriately.

6.16 Communicate with all members of the Morling Community with consideration and courtesy, regardless of mode of communication.

6.17 Not act in a manner that is, or may reasonably be perceived as being, threatening, harassing, bullying, discriminatory, victimising, vilifying, defamatory, intimidating or sexually exploitative; or likely to adversely affect the safety, health, wellbeing, or reputation of others.

6.18 Take all reasonable care for the health, safety and wellbeing of others and comply with health and safety regulations. Report hazards, incidents, accidents and risk of harm or injury to a member of staff.

6.19 Abstain from the use of alcohol and tobacco, and from the abuse of prescription drugs, while on campus or while undertaking any official activity related to MC. Abstain from the use or possession of illegal drugs while on campus or when undertaking any official activity related to MC.

6.20 Not bring the reputation of MC into disrepute.

7. COMMITMENT TO THE STUDENT CODE

7.1 Students are to read and consider this Code during their application process. Acceptance as a student invites them to be a member of the Morling Cohort and the broader Morling Community, with all the mutual benefits and responsibilities that are involved. A record of their acknowledgement of MC's Guiding Values and Principles, and agreement to adhere to the obligations and responsibilities of this code are included in the student's initial application and in subsequent enrolment processes.

- 7.2 Students can request additional information or comment regarding the Student Code to be added to their confidential student file.

8. BREACHES

- 8.1 MC aims to protect the safety of its staff and students, the integrity of its awards, safeguard its reputation, and to ensure appropriate use of its facilities.
- 8.2 Any breach of this Student Code may be managed in accordance with the provisions set out in the relevant policies and procedures.
- 8.3 Students who commenced their studies at MC or at Vose Seminary before the approval and promulgation of this code will not be subject to disciplinary proceedings under it unless the obligation which they breached was already stated in superseded policies and codes that were in force when they commenced their studies.
- 8.4 A student who wishes to make a formal complaint should use either the:
- 8.4.1 *ACT Grievance Resolution Policy – Students* (for ACT students); or
- 8.4.2 *Grievance Policy: Education, CCSC; MRC and Grievance Procedure: Education, CCSC; MRC* (all other MC students).
- 8.5 Where a complaint relates to sexual assault or sexual harassment, the student should refer to the *Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment Prevention and Response Policy*.
- 8.6 Where MC deems that a student is found to be in breach of this Code, any such breach will be managed in accordance with the applicable policy including the *Student Academic Misconduct Policy: Education; CCSC*.

9. RELATED DOCUMENTS AND LEGISLATION

Internal

- Academic Freedom Policy
- Anti-discrimination Policy
- Grievance Policy: Education, CCSC and MRC
- Grievance Procedure: Education, CCSC and MRC
- Incomplete Grade Policy: Education; Counselling, Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care
- Intellectual Property Policy
- Protection of the Vulnerable Policy
- Responsible Conduct of Research Policy
- Sexual Assault & Sexual Harassment (SASH) Prevention & Response Policy
- Sexual Assault & Sexual Harassment (SASH) Prevention & Response Procedure
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Student Academic Misconduct Policy: Education; CCSC
- Work Integrated Learning Policy

External

- ACT Academic Integrity Policy for Coursework Awards
- ACT Grievance Resolution Policy – Students
- ACT Intellectual Property Rights Policy
- ACT Research Integrity Policy
- ACT Research Misconduct Procedure
- ACT Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment Policy
- ACT Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment Procedure

(Also see <https://www.morling.edu.au/policies/> and <https://www.actheology.edu.au/public-policies/>)

10. REFERENCES

Avondale University Student Charter V1.0 2023

11. VERSION HISTORY

Version	Approved by	Approval Date	Effective Date	Changes made
1.01	VP(SC)	11 July 2024	11 July 2024	Corrected 'conscious' to 'conscience' at 4.3.6
1.00	MC Board	20 November 2023	20 November 2023	New Code to supersede the Student Code of Conduct, Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy, and the Community Code

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