

CODE OF CONDUCT

The life of Bible College SA is underpinned by a firm commitment to the person and work of Jesus Christ as revealed in the Bible. This commitment shapes the educational community of staff and students. Our community pursues truth and excellence with grace and diligence, treats people and ideas with love and respect, and thinks critically and constructively about complex issues.

Bible College SA is made up of Christian staff, Board directors, and general members who, along with students choosing to study with us, agree to participate in a community that strives to live according to biblical precepts. We believe that this best enables the College to fulfil its mission and achieve its aspirations, just as it brings the greatest glory to God and the greatest blessing to the whole community and those with whom we interact.

This Code of Conduct is intended as a guiding framework for a distinctive community that acknowledges and respects the College's statement of faith and purpose. As members of this community we willingly place ourselves under obligations to one another, as we agree to relational bonds with reciprocal benefits and mutual responsibilities. We strive to achieve respectful and purposeful unity that aims for the advancement of all, recognising the diversity of viewpoints, life journeys, stages of maturity, and roles that exist within the Bible College SA community.

COMMUNITY LIFE & EXPECTATIONS

Being a part of the community at Bible College SA involves a commitment on the part of all members 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, justice, and mutual submission for the good of others.

Members of the Bible College SA community, therefore, commit themselves to:

- Cultivating Christian virtues, such as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control, compassion, humility, forgiveness, peacemaking, mercy, and justice;
- Living lives characterised by honesty, civility, truthfulness, generosity, and integrity;
- Communicating in ways that build others up, according to their needs, for the benefit of all;
- Treating all persons with respect, fairness, and dignity;
- Being responsible citizens, both locally and globally, who respect authorities, submit to the laws of this country (other than where they would force a compromise of the Christian faith), and contribute to the welfare of society and creation;
- Exercising careful judgement in all lifestyle choices, and taking responsibility for personal choices and their impact on others;
- Encouraging and supporting other members of the community in their pursuit of these values and ideals, while extending forgiveness and healing to one another;
- Being familiar with, and abiding by, the relevant policies and procedures of the College;
- Respecting each individual's privacy;
- Avoiding all forms of academic misconduct;
- Using email, social media, Moodle (or other learning platforms), and the internet appropriately;
- Being reliable in financial commitments and other responsibilities to the College;
- Following work, health, and safety guidelines;
- Being above reproach in the area of relationships, recognising that the Bible only permits sexual intimacy between a man and a woman who are properly married;
- Disclosing if they are subject to any form of criminal investigation–this must be done by notifying the Principal of Bible College SA of the situation as soon as possible;
- Seeking to maintain a healthy, safe, considerate, and welcoming environment for all.

All community members agree to avoid:

- Communication that is destructive to the Bible College SA community life and the interpersonal relationships of its people, including any gossip, slander, and vulgar or obscene language;
- Behaviour that might reasonably be perceived as sexual-, racial-, ability-, or gender-based harassment, bullying, or intimidating;
- Lying, cheating, or other forms of dishonesty, including plagiarism and collusion;
- Stealing and misusing or destroying property that belongs to others;
- Sexual or emotional intimacy that violates the sacredness of marriage between a man and a woman;
- The use of materials that are degrading, dehumanising, exploitive, hateful, or gratuitously violent, including, but not limited to, pornography;
- Drunkenness, the use or possession of illegal drugs, and the misuse or abuse of substances including prescription drugs;
- Inappropriate use of email, mobile communications, and the internet;
- Violence;
- Damage or abuse of Bible College SA property.

PASTORAL DISCERNMENT AND SENSITIVITY

A heightened level of discernment and sensitivity is appropriate within a Christian educational community like Bible College SA. In order to foster the kind of community atmosphere most conducive to the College's goals, this Code of Conduct both identifies particular Christian standards and recognises degrees of latitude for individual freedom. True freedom is not the freedom to do all that one pleases, but rather empowerment to do what is best. In all respects, the Bible College SA community expects its members to exercise wise decision making according to biblical principles, carefully accounting for each individual's capabilities, vulnerabilities, and values, and considering the consequences of those choices to health and character, social relationships, and God's purpose in the world.

We acknowledge people face particular challenges in practising biblical sexual morality within today's 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. Further, the Bible affirms sexual intimacy is reserved for marriage between one man and one woman. Members of the Bible College SA community agree to act according to these principles. They also agree to strive for Christian maturity, to take personal responsibility for their actions, and to avoid situations where the temptation to compromise would be particularly strong.

COMMITMENT

This document applies to all persons who are part of the Bible College SA community. Bible College SA welcomes all students who qualify for admission. Students are expected to abide by the expectations of this Code of Conduct, and by College policies published in the Student Handbook and on the College website.

A record of affirmation and agreement to keep this Code, as well as other policies and responsibilities, is kept for all students while they are members of the Bible College SA community. The College provides accountability to this Code and other policies with action taken by designated representatives of the College as deemed necessary.

I have read and agree to abide by this Code of Conduct and its underlying principles:

Name:

Signature:

Date: