

## Student Disciplinary Consequences

### Preamble

Supportive discipline is an important part of the work undertaken in schools each day to help students develop and extend their capabilities in self-management and personal responsibility. The focus for teachers is on implementing proactive, preventative approaches that facilitate student growth.

At times, disciplinary consequences may be used as part of a student's educative process. The role of disciplinary consequences is to assist students to understand behavioural expectations and to learn more acceptable ways of interacting and engaging with others.

Disciplinary consequences may include in-class responses managed by the teacher, such as verbal reprimands, restatement of rules or expectations, reminders and practise of routines, restriction or removal of in-class privileges, behaviour monitoring systems, time out, detention and communication with parents.

For persistent or more serious behavioural incidents, other within-school disciplinary consequences may be implemented, such as temporary relocation to a 'buddy' classroom, individual review meetings with nominated staff person (e.g. Guidance Officer, Head of Department), and/or intensive support options.

### General Disciplinary Consequences & Individual Circumstances

We make systematic efforts to prevent inappropriate or unacceptable behaviour by teaching and reinforcing expected behaviours. We believe that all students are capable of meeting established expectations. When behaviours occur, it is important that consequences are predictable. Our school seeks to ensure that responses to inappropriate behaviour are proportionate to the nature of the behaviour and cognisant of the individual circumstances of the student.

When a behaviour requiring investigation is displayed, leadership will act accordingly and a consequence will be issued. The investigation may include multiple elements:

1. Consultation with staff
2. Written statements from students where appropriate
3. Contact home to parents and carers

After investigation and consultation, a decision by leadership will be made regarding what consequence will be used based on the individual circumstances of the student and situation.

The following disciplinary consequences are a non-exhaustive list that may apply to a student's behaviour:

- Regular Leadership/Student Check-ins
- Observations and support from specialists e.g. Guidance Officer, HOSES
- Behaviour Monitoring Cards
- Buddy Class / F Block class withdrawals
- Regular Parental check-ins
- Removal of representative privileges for sport, music or other school representative opportunities
- Individual Behaviour Plans (IBP)
- Functional Behaviour Analysis (FBA)
- CQRET referral
- Child Youth Mental Health Services referral
- Royal Flying Doctors referral
- Outback Futures referral
- Class withdrawals
- Suspension (external SDAs) – Suspensions will generally increase in time for repeat offences
- Exclusions

### F Block Process

F Block is used for a variety of purposes in our school:

- Inclusive Education
- Distance Education (B5 Room Available)
- School apprenticeship & traineeship lesson supervision
- Class Withdrawal
- Student wellbeing and support

## 2023 Student Disciplinary Consequences Policy

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A member of leadership is usually present to monitor F Block throughout the day. They are there to respond to any concerns raised throughout the day and provide behavioural assistance to teachers where required. A student may self-refer to F Block under a number of circumstances:

1. The student is feeling unwell
2. There is a need to discuss an issue with leadership
3. There is something stopping the student from participation in a certain class

A teacher may also refer a student to F Block as a circuit breaker or reset for 5 – 10 Minutes. Students self-referring to F Block may do so with the understanding that the purpose of this referral is to facilitate the quickest return to regular classes. F Block is not to be used for work avoidance and such behaviour will be dealt with as per the school attendance and participation procedure below. If required, parents/carers will be contacted to support the F Block process. Students in the space are reminded to be quiet and respectful of the variety of usages and support those learning within the environment.

### Direct Behaviours and Consequences

The following behaviours are considered inappropriate or unacceptable at Barcaldine Prep-12 State School. Barcaldine Prep-12 State School considers each incident based on its individual circumstances, and then applies appropriate consequences from a range of set consequences. The consequences displayed below are non-exhaustive and may not necessarily be applied in the order in which they are written. Where a choice of consequences and/or extenuating circumstances exist, the Principal has ultimate discretion to make the final determination.

#### 1. Appropriate Language

Our school is not only an educational institution, but a professional work environment. It is important that language used by students reflects this reality. It is acknowledged that swearing is to varying degrees common place in Australian society. Therefore, the conversation with our students is about context for language. We also appreciate that with such language being so common in our wider society, some students will make mistakes.

As such, Barcaldine Prep-12 State School uses the following process when a student uses inappropriate language:

- Students are given one warning each lesson if their language is inappropriate
- If they continue, students are given a language detention
- The detention involved students copying a Language Card which provides examples of how to change language behaviour.
- Detentions are tracked by staff through school tracking system
- If language continues, contact will be made with parents/carers as per Student Code of Conduct.

If a student swears directly at a staff member a School Disciplinary Absence - SDA (Suspension) will be an immediate consequence. The length of SDA will be at the discretion of the Principal.

#### 2. Gum

Gum causes significant damage to school property when incorrectly disposed of. School cleaners are not employed to clean saliva from gum off tables and chairs. As such, Gum and chewable lollies/mints are prohibited at School. A student caught with gum is required to undertake the following:

- Hand remaining pieces of gum over to a member of leadership
- Undertake a gum detention – students are provided with gloves, scraper, sanitiser and bin and required to scrape gum off the bottom of desks in classrooms.
- These detentions are tracked and persistent gum detentions will result in a disciplinary consequence as per the Student Code of Conduct.

#### 3. Personal Mobile Devices

Most students in the secondary, and many in the primary sectors of our school have a mobile device. Mobile devices at Barcaldine Prep-12 State School are prohibited unless explicitly requested for classroom usage (e.g. Art). If a mobile device is required for a school activity, contact will be made to parents and carers prior to the usage of the device.

Consequences for incorrect usage of a mobile device:

1. Student will be directed by teacher to member of leadership
2. Member of leadership will seal device in lockable phone pouch
3. Student will keep sealed pouch on their person throughout the school day
4. At the end of the day, students can unlock pouches in school administration

Continued misuse of mobile devices will result contact made to parents and carers and further disciplinary action at the discretion of the Principal. If requested by parents/carers, students may lock devices in pouches at the beginning of the day in administration.

#### 4. School attendance & participation

It is the expectation of all Education Queensland schools that students attend school every day. Furthermore, when attending school students are to be actively participating in class. If a student is consistently absent from school, the school's attendance policy will be followed.

Late to School:

- Student to sign in at administration
- Students who arrive after 10am will be marked absent for half a day
- Parent/carer of persistent offenders will be contacted. A meeting will take place to develop a support strategy to address persistent lateness.
- Students may face detentions, withdrawal of certain privileges or daily monitoring
- Refusal to participate will be regarded as conduct that adversely affects, or is likely to adversely affect, the good order and management of the school
- Repeated and/or blatant refusal to participate in detention will result in disciplinary consequences such as school disciplinary absence - SDA (Suspension)

If a student is consistently late or truant from class, the following process occurs:

- Students will be removed from the playground.
- Student will be given a catch-up detention at lunch time
- Refusal to participate will be regarded as conduct that adversely affects, or is likely to adversely affect, the good order and management of the school
- Repeated and/or blatant refusal to participate in detention will result in disciplinary consequences such as school disciplinary absence - SDA (Suspension)

#### 5. Smoking and/or vaping

Smoking and vaping are highly dangerous activities that have been linked to multiple health conditions. It is illegal to participate in these activities under the age of 18 and it is illegal for all people to smoke or vape on school grounds regardless of age.

- A student is caught smoking, there is an automatic suspension for 3 days.
- If a student is caught a second time, the suspension is 5 days.
- If a student continues to smoke, he/she will receive a 10, 20, Pending suspension escalation
- Students will be directed to undertake relevant health education program.
- Students who are in the presence of smokers can expect similar consequences.

#### 6. Physical altercations

When a physical altercation or behaviour is displayed by a student an investigation by leadership will occur and a consequence will be put in place. The investigation will include multiple elements:

1. Consultation with staff
2. Written statements from students where appropriate
3. Contact home to parents and carers

After investigation and consultation, a decision by leadership will be made regarding what consequence will be used based on the individual circumstances of the student and situation. It can be expected that all parties within an altercation will receive a consequence; these may not be of the same level based on the investigation. Severity of consequence will be impacted by a number of factors, including age of students involved and is at the ultimate discretion of the principal.

The following consequences may be used throughout this process:

- Restorative justice sessions between parties
- Class withdrawals
- Withdrawal from playground and school activities
- Loss of privileges & school representation
- Suspension (SDAs)
- Exclusion
- Referral to police