At Mawson Lakes School, all students have the right to learn in an environment that is safe, positive and engaging. Every student has the responsibility to follow the Mawson Lakes School values and rules. Staff, parents and students work together to create safe, caring, orderly and productive learning communities which support the rights of all students to learn and all teachers to teach.

**Policy**
We implement the DECS School Discipline Policy and have used it to develop our Behaviour Code.

**Rules and Expectations**
Our school values form the basis of our school rules and expectations. Students’ levels of compliance with these values are reported to families twice a year in the student written reports. These are explained on our school website.

**Bullying**
Bullying is repeated verbal, physical, social or psychological behaviour that is harmful and involves the misuse of power by an individual or group towards one or more persons. Cyber-bullying refers to bullying through information and communication technologies such as the internet and mobile phones. Conflict or fights between equals and single incidents are not defined as bullying.

Bullying of any form, for any reason, can have long-term effects for those involved, including bystanders, and therefore will not be tolerated.

**Harassment**
Harassment is behaviour that targets an individual or group due to their identity, race, culture or ethnic origin; religion; physical characteristics; gender; sexual orientation; marital, parenting or economic status; age; ability or disability and that offends, humiliates, intimidates or creates a hostile environment.

Harassment may be an on-going pattern of behaviour, or it may be a single act.

**Inappropriate Behaviour**
In our school, the following behaviours are considered inappropriate and will have a consequence applied:
- Violence – threatened or actual
- Threatening the good order of the school, including bullying and harassment
- Threatening safety or well being of others
- Acting illegally
- Interfering with the rights of others
- Persistent and wilful inattention

**Formal School Structures for dealing with unacceptable behaviour**
- Reminder/Warning
- Class Time Out / Think Time
- Buddy Class - note sent home to parents/caregivers
- Office Time Out- note sent home to parents/caregivers
- Yard Time Out – parents notified
- Take Home - Parents/caregivers notified by phone, note given to parents/caregivers as student is collected students, re-entry meeting required
- Internal Suspension – parents contacted by phone, note sent to parents/caregivers
- External Suspension – parents contacted by phone, note sent home, re -entry meeting and Student Development Plan required
- Exclusion – parents contacted by phone, notice of intention to exclude from school sent to parents, re -entry meeting and Student Development Plan required

**Student Development Plan**
If a student has ongoing behaviour problems at school, a Student Development Plan may be devised. This will be negotiated between staff, the student and parents as part of a behavioural change program. It will clearly outline the responsibilities of the student and the part played by the school and the parent in helping the student become more successful at school.

**Responsibilities of parents and caregivers**
Parents accept responsibility to:
- ensure that the student attends school and that the school staff are notified of absences
- keep school informed of health issues, concerns about behaviour or other matters of relevance
- support the school in implementing the above code
- comply with DECD and school policies