Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Code of Conduct for a safer school

Schools are places where parents and community members should be welcomed as partners in their child’s education. Unfortunately, many students, staff and parents recently witnessed a display of aggression between parents in the school at home time. I would like the school community to know that this type of behaviour will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

As a result, it has been necessary to form a Code of Conduct for parents and visitors which is attached to this Informer in draft form. Included in the Code of Conduct is a reference to the Inclosed lands Act which, when enforced prohibits a community member’s entry onto the school grounds for a specified period of time. Comments about the Code of Conduct from parents are welcome. It will be ratified at the next School Council meeting.

I have also become aware of instances of cyber-bullying occurring amongst certain parents. The NSW Crimes Act states that it is an offence “to intimidate a person to fear physical or psychological harm to him or herself – penalty 5 years imprisonment and/or $5500 fine.”

Any parents feeling harassed or victimised by other parents are urged to contact Macquarie Fields Police on 9605 0499.

The Grange Public School is an excellent school, providing exemplary teaching and learning programs and a strong effective discipline policy.
I thank the vast majority of parents for their maturity and their appreciation of the high standards of behaviour that we expect of our students.

Finally, I request that parents do not enter the grounds before 2.50pm each afternoon to collect children from class and that parents do not enter classroom blocks until after bell time.

Best wishes
Lynne Wilson
Principal

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**Principal’s Awards**

Elsie Mafi  Jana Islam
Devesh Nath  Alex Le  Thomas Draper

**Grange Achievement Award**

Tighlah Morton-Anson

**PSC Award**

Taharin Khan  Sarena Sakander

**Bronze Award**

Taylan Pierce

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**SCHOOL ZONE PARKING OFFENCES**

**Increased penalties for School Zones. Current as at 1 July 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offence Description</th>
<th>Maximum Penalty</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NO STOPPING you must NOT STOP your vehicle at any point on the road or kerb, unless there is a medical or other emergency.</td>
<td><strong>$405 + 2 Demerit Points</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Means that you have no more than 2 minutes for drop-offs or pick-ups of passengers or goods and the driver must stay within 3 metres of your vehicle.</td>
<td><strong>$169 + 2 Demerit Points</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Means that in the direction of the arrow or arrows you are not allowed to stop your vehicle unless you are driving a bus.</td>
<td><strong>$304 + 2 Demerit Points</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DOUBLE PARKING**

You are NOT PERMITTED to stop or park your vehicle alongside another vehicle that is already parked parallel to the kerb.

- **STOP in a NO STOPPING zone:** $304 + 2 Demerit Points, or **STOP on or near a Children’s or Pedestrian Crossing:** $405 + 2 Demerit Points.
- **STOP on pathstrip in built up area:** $169 + 2 Demerit Points.
- **STOP or Park in a Disabled Marked Area without a permit:** $506

Please Note: Fines subject to change without notice. Current to 30 June 2014. These penalties apply to offences in school zones during school hours.

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**PARKING IN SCHOOL ZONES**

Parking offences in School Zones are in a higher penalty category and attracts two Demerit Points. Parents are asked to consider the parking signs at their children’s school to better protect school children from HARM.

In the last financial year 28,748 motorists were booked by local council rangers or police for parking illegally in school zones. Motorists are not giving way to pedestrians and other vehicles, making illegal u-turns, driving and parking on footpaths and nature strips, not reversing safely, stopping near a pedestrian crossing and double parking. Parents face fines of up to $405 and losing two points off their driver’s licence for offences such as stopping near a pedestrian crossing. It’s a $304 for double parking in a school zone or stopping in a bus zone to drop off a child.

It is important that motorists obey all road rules whether in school zones or in general traffic. There are good reasons to slow down in school zones, to save the lives of our children, to save motorists points, money and their licences.
CODE OF CONDUCT
FOR PARENTS AND VISITORS
DRAFT

Purpose: To provide guidelines related to school visitors that ensure a safe and harmonious school environment is maintained. This Code of Conduct is intended to ensure that students, staff, parents and other visitors are not subjected to behaviours that wound their feelings, arouse anger, resentment, disgust or outrage.

Aims:

- To ensure all visitors to the school conduct themselves in an appropriate manner;
- To ensure that students, staff, parents and other visitors are not subjected to aggressive, hostile or violent behaviours; and
- To ensure the rights of students, teachers and parents are respected and upheld.

Implementation:

Parents and visitors to the school are expected to:

1. Treat all persons associated with the school with respect and courtesy;
2. Allow staff to supervise, investigate and manage students without interference;
3. Never directly approach another person’s child as the school will deal with issues between students as part of the school’s Discipline and Welfare policies;
4. Leave the grounds if requested by the Principal or nominee;
5. Make appointments in advance for interviews. Please be aware that teachers are not always available when issues arise and you may need to make an appointment; and
6. Follow school procedures governing entry and behaviour on school grounds, including any restrictions that may be imposed
   a. All visitors must sign in at the front office and obtain a visitor’s pass.
   b. After the visit all visitors must sign out at the front office and return the pass.
   c. School functions involving large numbers of visitors, such as presentation days, Grandparents day, school concerts, open days and the like are precluded from signing in procedures.
Volunteers are also expected:

- to be outstanding role models for all students;
- to work under the professional direction of staff, following school policies;
- to speak in a kind and friendly way to all students and staff;
- to maintain confidentiality;
- to report any issues of concern to teachers (and not directly intervene); and
- to keep a safe and professional distance from all students.

Failure to abide by this Code of Conduct, or when any of the following occur, will lead to the provisions of the *Inclosed Lands Protection Act (1901) and its Amendments* being followed:

- Actual physical assaults or threatened physical assaults on students, staff, parents or community members at the school or during the course of school activities.
- Behaviour in a manner in the presence of students, staff, parents or other visitors to the school that causes alarm or concern to the students, staff, parents or other visitors.
- Use of offensive language (i.e. swearing) in the presence of students.
- Persistent interruptions to the learning environment of the school such as entering classrooms without permission.
- Persistent entry to the school site without permission or legitimate reason.

Under the terms of the Act, the Principal (or nominee) has the legal authority to:

- Direct the person to immediately leave the grounds.
- Call the police to remove the person should he/she refuse.
- Restrict or withdraw future permission (by letter) for the person to enter the grounds without permission of the Principal.
- Seek further legal avenues.

**Evaluation:**

- Visitor records accurately maintained.
- No unauthorised visitors enter the school.
- Students, staff, parents and visitors operate in a safe school environment.

**Policy:**

- *Inclosed Lands Protection Act (1901) and its Amendments*
- *DET Legal Bulletin Issue 31*
- *Student Welfare Policy for The Grange Public School*