

# Code of Conduct

The Code of Conduct applies to all financial members and volunteers ('members') of the Newtown High School of the Performing Arts Parents & Citizens Association ('P&C Association') while undertaking any role or activity related to the Newtown High School of the Performing Arts P&C Association ("NHSPA P&C").

## Principles

The Code of Conduct is based on the following seven fundamental principles:

### Principle 1: Respect for the Law

NHSPA P&C members, in common with all citizens, are under the jurisdiction of the laws of the State and the Commonwealth and are obliged to observe such laws.

The NHSPA P&C adheres to the government's Child Protection Act & Regulation (Working with Children Check) legislation and relevant procedures.

### Principle 2: Respect for all Persons

Newtown High School of the Performing Arts P&C Association members are expected to treat students, school staff, and all members of the community equitably with dignity and respect. This involves, but is not limited to, the following:

- Tolerance of the views held by others which are different from your own
- Courtesy and responsiveness in dealing with others
- Fairness in supervising and dealing with other members
- Making decisions that are procedurally fair to all people according to the principles of natural justice
- Not discriminating on grounds such as gender, sexual orientation, race, ability, cultural background, religious status, marital status, age or political conviction
- An awareness and respect for cultural difference
- Engaging in rational debate allowing for alternative points of view to be expressed
- Not engaging in behaviour that might reasonably be perceived as harassment, bullying or intimidation

### Principle 3: Integrity

Newtown High School of the Performing Arts P&C Association members shall be honest in carrying out their duties and avoid conflicts between their private interests and their P&C Association roles and responsibilities with respect to:



- Personal relationships
- Financial relationships
- Receipt of gifts
- Employment
- Use of confidential information obtained in the course of NHSPA P&C duties

#### **Principle 4: Diligence**

NHSPA P&C members shall carry out their duties in a professional and conscientious manner. This involves:

- Carrying out official decisions and policies faithfully and impartially
- Exercising care for others in P&C Association related activities
- Ensuring outside interests do not interfere with a P&C Association member's duties or responsibilities
- Adhering to professional codes of conduct where applicable being encouraged to report fraud or corrupt conduct to an Office Bearer of the P&C Association and/or external authorities

#### **Principle 5: Conflicts of Interest are to be disclosed and addressed**

NHSPA P&C members must declare interests which conflict, either perceived or actual, with your P&C duties and activities or that might benefit the private interest of a member/s of the P&C.

NHSPA P&C members must always act in the best interests of the NHSPA P&C and disclose potential conflicts.

A conflict of interest may include, but is not limited to, existing individual interests or a benefit, professional ethics, personal or professional relationships, financial or proprietary interests.

#### **Conflicts of interest must be disclosed**

Where a conflict of interest has been identified, it is expected that the conflict must be brought to the attention of the office bearers and the members and be disclosed or addressed in a meeting.

#### **How to deal with a Conflict of Interest**

The identified conflict of interest must be managed by impartial decision-makers, who are not involved in the conflict.

Minutes of meetings should reflect how the conflict was raised, addressed and managed; and the outcome be disclosed to all members.

The person(s) with the conflict of interest may be refrained from participating in all formal or informal discussion, debate and voting; and their duties be re-assigned until a resolution has been found.

The person(s) with the conflict of interest may be restricted to access confidential information and sensitive documents relating to the conflict of interest.

In the event where a conflict of interest is very significant and prevents the person(s) with the conflict of interest from performing their role and responsibilities, the P&C Association may ask that the person(s) involved with the conflict relinquish their personal interest that creates the conflict and/or resign from their P&C Association role.

## **Principle 6: Privacy and Confidentiality are to respected**

The NHSPA P&C adheres to the Australian privacy principles contained in the Privacy Act of 1988.

The NHSPA P&C recognises that the privacy of any individual's personal identifiable information must not be divulged or shared under any circumstances without the individual's written consent within or outside the NHSPA P&C, unless there is a lawful authority for its disclosure.

The NHSPA P&C must take all reasonable steps to ensure confidential data, documents and personal information of any individual is protected from misuse, loss and unauthorised access, and/or disclosure.

All personal and sensitive information must not be viewed, shared or distributed to any person/s other than the office bearer/s who have responsibility of such information of the NHSPA P&C.

All personal and sensitive information when no longer required must be disposed of securely.

Confidential information of the NHSPA P&C must not be used, disclosed, copied, published or removed by any member of the NHSPA P&C.

As adopted by the NHSPA P&C at a General Meeting, on 18 June 2024..



Signed President:

NAME: Cameron Jackson

Witnessed:

NAME: Susan Green