

Student Code of Conduct

Academy21 welcomes students with a variety of prior education experiences and with different aims. We seek to create a purposeful learning environment, the ability to focus, challenge yourself, and feel a sense of safety. Our commitment to this means that behaviour is excellent in our schools, which is what you deserve.

We believe educational success comes from students actively participating in learning through attending classes or using lesson recordings and resources actively, submitting set work or just following feedback to improve.

As a school, we will recognise your efforts and enable you to act with integrity and own your learning journey. In a rapidly evolving digital world, we take seriously the holistic development of our students and aim to equip students with the tools and attitudes to navigate technology and global relationships positively. We are inclusive, and we want every student, regardless of additional needs, to be the best version of themselves through the support of our flexible schooling and adaptive teaching.

An important part of developing a positive learning culture and making sure every student feels safe is to make sure you know what is expected in school. We want all our students to work towards fulfilling our school values:

- Potential – being the best version of yourself.
- Curiosity – always seeking to learn and improve.
- Respect – appreciating that we are all different.
- Kindness – acting with integrity and care for others.
- Individuality – having your own aspirations.
- Flexibility – being adaptable and putting in the effort.

To help you understand what these values 'look like', the Student Code of Conduct ⁽¹⁾ outlines the conduct expected of students by becoming members of our student body. Your teachers and leaders at Academy21 and those in your physical setting are here to support you in achieving these.

(1) Conduct refers to any actions performed by any members of the student community. It includes behaviour in online classrooms, on our platforms and in all the spaces Academy21 provide for students to learn and interact in. It includes all behaviour that has an impact on other students in the community and other students' ability to learn and thrive in school.

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Students will:

- Enter live lessons classroom punctually and positively, engaging with prepared learning activities.
- Catch up on missed sessions and take responsibility for knowing how to use the learning platform.
- Prepare adequately for classes and assessments, taking responsibility for planning work and revision out of class.
- Work independently and ask for support when unable to resolve challenges or stuck with learning.
- Take pride in their work, participate in class activities, and submit tasks that are the result of sincere personal effort.
- Submit work that is their own and not plagiarised or copied from other sources (see Plagiarism Policy).
- Submit set work as directed by their teachers and to the best of their ability, communicating with teachers where additional support or issues arise.
- Value and respect the contributions of peers and teachers, understanding that students come from different contexts and have different values.
- Share opinions calmly and appropriately, challenging others respectfully when required.
- Respond in a timely and courteous manner to the teacher when communicated with, both in a lesson (e.g., chat, Q&A) and outside of the lesson (e.g. activity feedback).
- Use all communication tools in a positive, polite, constructive, and focused manner.
- Use all school and associated platforms sensibly and respectfully, following guidelines for acceptable use and not communicating in a way that brings the school into disrepute.
- Take responsibility for their actions and behave with self-control so that everyone can be proud of our community.
- Not disrupt the learning of others through misuse of systems or inappropriate communication or behaviour. This includes behaviour that directly and unreasonably distracts other students from their learning or that requires the teacher to respond, thereby taking up their capacity to support other learners.
- Accept that the school will make decisions on the behaviour of individuals or groups of students in accordance with this Student Code of Conduct and Behaviour Policy.
- Report to school staff all incidents of poor conduct witnessed or affected by so an inclusive and kind school community can be maintained.
- Do nothing to endanger a healthy, safe, and secure online environment. This includes using the internet and social media in a safe, appropriate, and positive way and not taking part in any form of 'cyber-bullying' (that which takes place online or through social networking sites, messaging apps, direct messages, gaming sites, chat rooms, other websites, etc.).

In striving to do the above, asking when unsure and trying to be the best you can be you will help us to help you to achieve your full potential – something we all want.

Student Acceptable Use Agreement

Our Behaviour Policy and Student Code of Conduct outline how students using Academy21 are expected to conduct themselves to maintain a supportive, inclusive, and thriving learning community. The details in the agreement below outline how students are expected to act to stay safe online.

For my safety:

- I understand that the school will monitor my use of the IT systems, including the student portal platform, virtual classroom, and other digital communications.
- I will not tell anyone my password, nor will I try to use any other person's username and password.
- I will not give out any personal information (e.g., surname, school, address, telephone number, social media handle) about myself or anyone else when online.
- I will not arrange to meet people offline that I have communicated with online.
- I will immediately report any unpleasant or inappropriate material or messages or anything that makes me feel uncomfortable when I see it online.
- I will not store, send, or share content of an inappropriate nature, e.g., sexual, offensive, or discriminatory.

Acting as I expect others to behave toward me:

- I will respect others' work and property and will not access, copy, remove or otherwise alter any other user's files, without the owner's knowledge and permission.
- I will be polite and responsible when I communicate with others, I will not use strong, aggressive, or inappropriate language (e.g., swear words).
- I appreciate that others may have different opinions and that Academy21 is an inclusive provision. I will respect their right to share their opinions. However, where inappropriate, offensive or discriminatory opinions are shared, I will report my concerns to a trusted adult.

Keeping secure and safe when using technology in school:

- I will only use school communication tools and school email addresses for appropriate matters, e.g., to contact teachers or other members of staff outside of regular lessons.
- I will not try to upload, download, or access any materials which are illegal or inappropriate or may cause harm or distress to others, nor will I try to use any programs or software that might allow me to bypass the filtering/security systems in place to prevent access to such materials.
- I will immediately tell a staff member if I receive an offensive or inappropriate e-mail or message, or if offensive or inappropriate content is shared with me.
- When I am using the internet to find information, I should take care to check that the information that I access is accurate.
- I should ensure that I have permission to use the original work of others in my work.
- Where work is protected by copyright, I will not try to download copies (including music and videos).

Taking responsibility for my actions, both in and out of school:

- I understand that Academy21 also has the right to implement the responses and action in its Behaviour Policy if I am involved in incidents of inappropriate behaviour, even when I am out of school where it impacts our community that I am a part of (e.g., cyberbullying, inappropriate use of images and/or personal information).
- I understand that if I break these rules, I can be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the Academy21 Behaviour Policy. This may include loss of access to live lessons and/or the student portal.