

Investigation Policy

1. The following is the School's current policy for dealing with Disciplinary Actions and Welfare Issues. This is not intended to restrict the School's general power of discipline and this policy may be changed from time to time at the discretion of the School.

Overview

2. Except in serious situations where immediate termination of the Agreement is necessary, or where the breach does not warrant any formal response other than a warning, the School will endeavour, where appropriate, to follow a two-stage investigation process (the Investigation Process).
3. In Stage One, the School will investigate and determine the facts of the situation being considered (**the Situation**), and will reach a conclusion on what happened and whether there is a Welfare Issue or an incident that requires Disciplinary Action or the termination of the Agreement.
4. During Stage One of the Investigation Process, the Student will have an opportunity to provide a response to any subject matter being investigated or to any allegation made concerning the Situation.
5. In Stage Two, if the School has determined some response is required, the School will consider the appropriate outcome for the Situation, up to and including termination of the Agreement.
6. The Student will have an opportunity to provide a response to the situation and any proposed outcome that the School is considering taking (**the Proposed Action**).
7. This policy does not limit the School's power to take appropriate disciplinary action urgently and without following the Investigation Process if this is necessary having regard to the seriousness of the Situation. Such a determination may be made at any point during the Investigation Process.
8. This policy also does not limit the School's power to suspend the student for the duration of the Investigation process where suspension is considered necessary for the safety or education of any person.

General Policy

9. When the School is conducting an investigation involving the Student it will endeavour to provide the Student with the following:
 - (a) a written summary of the Situation (as it understands it) or the Proposed Action;
 - (b) an opportunity to respond to the Situation or the Proposed Action, either in person or in writing or both, at the choice of the Student;
 - (c) an opportunity to consider the Allegation or the Proposed Action for a reasonable period of time (having regard to the seriousness of the Situation or the Proposed Action) before giving a response;
 - (d) an opportunity to contact his or her Parent before giving a response, unless the delay caused by contacting that person is unreasonable having regard to the seriousness of the Situation or Proposed Action;
 - (d) an opportunity to have an independent support person of her choice present at any meeting relating to the Investigation process;

