GREEEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AUSTRALIA

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT FOR SCRIPTURE TEACHERS

Introduction

As a Scripture Teacher we are regarded in some ways as a Department of Education employee. We are expected to always behave in ways that promote the safety, welfare and well-being of children and young people.

We must actively seek to prevent harm to children and young people, and to support those who have been harmed.

Punishment

We must not impose physical punishment on a student in the course of our professional duties

Relationship

We must not develop a relationship with any student that is, or that can be misinterpreted as having a personal rather than a professional interest in a student.

Compromising your relationship

Our professional relationship may be compromised if we:

➤ invite students to join our personal electronic social networking site or accept students' invitations to join theirs

➤ attend parties or socialise with students privately

➤ invite a student or students back to our home or attend theirs without an appropriate professional reason and without the consent of their parent or carer.

➤ transport a school student in our car without prior approval from a supervisor and a parent or carer

Boundaries

The boundaries of the professional relationship will be breached if we:

➤ hold conversations of an intimately personal nature, where we disclose private information about our self

➤ have contact with a student via written or electronic means including email, letters, telephone, text messages or chat lines, without a valid context

➤ give students gifts of a personal nature that encourages them to think they have an individual and special relationship with us.

Summary

➤ Conduct ourselves in a caring but professional manner at all times.

➤ If anything is disclosed of a private and concerning matter, it must be reported to the school Principal or Deputy Principal. It is not our role to solve the issue and it must remain confidential.