

## Student Code of Conduct

Queensland Theological College (QTC) requires all students to abide by the *Code of Conduct* ("this code"). This code applies to all students – full time, part time and online, whether inside or outside the college.

This code is based on the principles and values expressed in the Bible and seeks to honour God, ensuring the gospel is unhindered. It is also based on the principles, policies and values held and by the Presbyterian Church of Queensland, as expressed explicitly through the code and doctrinal standards of the General Assembly of Australia.

As a Christian institution QTC seeks to promote a community environment in which the highest standards of behaviour are maintained. It also ensures that all students and staff are able to work and study in a safe, encouraging environment.

This code is not designed to cover every situation, but is designed to give guidance as to the underlying principles of acceptable behaviour while enrolled at QTC.

The Bible calls us to live God's way in every area of life and sets guidelines that help Christians live in community together, bringing glory to God.

It is expected that students will show integrity and self-control in their words and deeds, including:-

- taking responsibility for their own behaviour. This includes acting with honesty, treating everyone with respect and behaving in a way that upholds the values, integrity and reputation of QTC.
- showing respect to all QTC staff, following any reasonable directive given by a staff member that is issued whilst performing their duties.
- taking due care of health and safety at college, including following all health and safety policies and procedures and reporting any known hazards, incidents or injuries.
- being considerate in their use of social media to not endanger the privacy, security or reputation of other QTC staff, students or the college itself.
- uphold the laws of state and nation except on those occasions where obedience to the civil authority are in conflict with Biblical principles.
- attend a local church regularly and play a full part in its life and ministry.

Students are expected to 'honour Christ in all things'. Accordingly the following are prohibited:-

1. sins such as gossip, sowing of discord, expressing of prejudice based on race, creed, age, sexual preference, gender and/or socio-economic status. These are all destructive to the community.
2. sexual misconduct including but not limited to sexual activity outside of marriage, adultery, or homosexual behaviour. The position of the College and the Presbyterian Church of Queensland is that the only proper context for a sexual relationship is in the context of a lifelong, monogamous, heterosexual marriage. The Presbyterian Church of Queensland's statements in relation to sexuality can be found at [https://www.pcq.org.au/pcq\\_pdf\\_gist/gist-the-gospel-in-sexuality-08-15.pdf](https://www.pcq.org.au/pcq_pdf_gist/gist-the-gospel-in-sexuality-08-15.pdf). Other sexual misconduct including indecent exposure, voyeurism, viewing or distributing pornographic material will be subject to disciplinary action.



3. behaviour which is lewd, indecent, offensive, annoying, obscene or inappropriate conduct\* at QTC or at a QTC event.
4. the possession or use of unlawful substances such as non-prescribed medical-grade stimulants and depressants, hallucinogenic drugs or any illegal drug. Drugs and alcohol are not permitted on QTC premises.
5. all forms of gambling.
6. any form of occult activity, including but not limited to witchcraft, sorcery, acting as a clairvoyant or psychic.

\* (In order to maintain objectivity for investigation and litigation purposes, the 'reasonable person' test applies – behaviour and actions that a reasonable Christian person in the circumstances would view as lewd, indecent, offensive, annoying, obscene or inappropriate.)

In addition to the above, the following behaviour is deemed inappropriate and in some cases may lead to disciplinary action:-

- all forms of academic misconduct.
- inappropriate use of information technology, including accessing or disseminating offensive material.
- conduct on or off the premises that is in conflict with the welfare and integrity of QTC and which includes any form of bullying.
- unauthorised presence on or use of QTC property.
- destroying, defacing or damaging property belonging to QTC, or its staff or guests.
- failing to comply with any other QTC Policy. All relevant QTC policies can be found in the Student Handbook and through Moodle.
- failure to comply with the policies and requirements of the Australian College of Theology (ACT). Current versions of these policies are available on the ACT website:  
[www.acttheology.edu.au](http://www.acttheology.edu.au)

Breaches of this Code will be handled by the Principal, Vice Principal and/or Academic Dean as they deem appropriate based on seriousness and/or repeated nature of the breach. The goal of QTC is the growth in godliness and maturity of all students. Nonetheless, persistent inappropriate behaviour may result in exclusion from study at QTC, in accordance with ACT policy.

### **Student Declaration:-**

I, ....., confirm that I have read this Code of Conduct and

I agree to maintain the Code while I am enrolled as a student at Queensland Theological College.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: