

Section F (NELP 1) LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Policy: Stand Downs & Suspensions

Date of Review: August 2024

Next Review: August 2027

Reviewers: Board of Trustees, Deputy Principal, Principal

Goal

To ensure compliance with Ministry of Education (MoE) regulations and procedures (as per Education and Training Act 2020 and amendments/especially sections relating to Suspension and Stand Down). These procedures are to apply in cases of disciplinary action for serious misbehaviors which may result in Stand Down, Suspension, Exclusion and Expulsion.

Objectives

- 1 To ensure that all the above disciplinary responses are carried out in accordance with the 'Guidelines for Principals and Boards of Trustees on Stand-Downs, Suspensions, Exclusions and Expulsions' as defined under the Education and Training Act 2020
- 2 These procedures are detailed in the June 2003 and 2009 "Guidelines and Good Practice" supplements".
- 3 To see that the principles of 'natural justice' and 'due process' are given significance in the above processes.
- 4 To endeavour to utilise the existing regulations to facilitate fair and reasonable outcomes which do not unfairly diminish or impede the rights of all individuals to educational opportunities.
- 5 To provide a basis for response to serious disciplinary actions which protects the Health and Safety of all members of the College community and reinforces the expectations and regulations set down by the Board of Trustees.
- 6 To reinforce and maintain a climate of safety, security and positive opportunity for educational endeavour and achievement at Waitakere College.

Guidelines

- 1 Serious disciplinary events should be dealt with in a constructive and fair and equitable manner with regard to the rights of the individual and the wider good of the College community.
- 2 This above determination is reflected in the commitment to the philosophy and practices of Restorative Practice. This is augmented by the development of the philosophy of 'The Waitakere Way' and its underpinning practices and processes for resolution of problems via restorative meetings. (a code of conduct, expectations and interpersonal respect for students and staff).

- 3 At the time of being formally notified of a decision to Suspend or Stand Down, notification will be given to affected students and parents regarding access to counselling. The recommendation will be made that they take the opportunity to meet and consult with Support Services.
- 4 It is recommended wherever appropriate and practicable, that the College make contact with the students and family to facilitate a meeting prior to the suspension meeting to engage the assistance of Support Services.

Chairperson

Principal

Date