

HAMILTON SECONDARY COLLEGE

Family Charter

(Approved by Governing Council 19 June, 2013)

Purpose

This *Family Charter* outlines how Hamilton Secondary College will work together with students and families as we seek to improve the well-being and learning outcomes of all students. It is based on an understanding of the mutual obligations which need to be fulfilled by the school and by families if these goals are to be achieved.

For students

Hamilton Secondary College will seek to provide a learning environment which is safe, respectful and challenging, and where each student has the opportunity to reach their full potential.

For families

The College undertakes to work with families in a welcoming and respectful way, and to ensure that families have the information they need to encourage and support the development and learning of each child.

Guiding and supporting each child - by encouraging ...

- For staff
 - An awareness of the learning and social needs of all students
 - Where needed, training and development in the area of special needs
 - Regular, timely and sufficiently detailed reporting on student progress
 - Staffing and care group continuity (where possible) for students with special needs
- For students
 - An atmosphere of self discipline and mutual respect
 - Appropriate use of IT, software and computer facilities
- For staff, students and parents
 - Effective communication, including regular use of student diaries and Daymap
 - Prompt and respectful management of student absences
 - A shared and realistic approach to student transition into a competitive world
 - In-depth conversations – when needed

Keeping families informed – by providing

- Informed access to the College website and data links
- Clear communication on homework expectations and tasks
- Clarity on curriculum, assessment (inc how grades are awarded) and reporting
- Access to relevant texts and learning resources
- Links to other support agencies
- Opportunities, where needed, for in-depth discussions

Building relationships and encouraging family involvement – by providing ...

- A welcoming and rewarding environment
- Understanding of individual circumstances
- Respectful and timely communication
- A “space” for parents (ie Sports Day etc)
- Opportunities for social interaction
- Facilities for Parent Clubs / forums (possibly on line)
- Support / encouragement for the role of a Parent Liaison Officer