



Armidale Catholic Schools Response to Hate Speech

All Armidale Catholic Schools are committed to providing a safe, inclusive and respectful learning environment for all students, staff and members of the school community. In accordance with the ACS Living Well Learning Well Student Support Framework, ACS Suspension and Expulsion Policies and Procedures and the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) Codes of Conduct, Hate Speech is strictly prohibited.

For all Armidale Catholic Schools, Hate Speech is defined as conduct that is an offence under section 93ZAA of the *Crimes Act 1900 (NSW)*

Any incident of Hate Speech will be treated as a serious breach of ACS policies. Where such conduct places the safety, wellbeing or learning of others at risk, or causes significant harm, a significant response must be undertaken. For students, this may include suspension or expulsion in line with ACS and school procedures.

The Principal will ensure that procedural fairness is applied in all matters and that appropriate supports are provided to those affected, as well as interventions to address and prevent further incidents.

This statement reflects our commitment to upholding dignity, respect and the safety of every member of our school community.