1. General

This statement outlines the College’s policy on how the College uses and manages personal information provided to or collected by it.

Aitken College is bound by the Australian Privacy Principles contained in the Commonwealth Privacy Act. In relation to health records Aitken College is also bound by the Health Records Act 2001 (Vic). Aitken College may, from time to time, review and update this Privacy Policy to take account of new laws and technology, changes to schools’ operations and practices and to make sure it remains appropriate to the changing school environment.

2. What kinds of personal information does the College collect and how is it collected?

The type of information the College collects and holds includes (but is not limited to) personal information, including health and other sensitive information, about:

• students and parents and/or guardians (Parents) before, during and after the course of a student’s enrolment at the school;

• job applicants, staff members, volunteers and contractors; and

• other people who come into contact with the school.

Personal Information you provide: The College will generally collect personal information held about an individual by way of forms filled out by Parents or students, face-to-face meetings and interviews, emails and telephone calls. On occasions people other than Parents and students provide personal information.

Personal Information provided by other people: In some circumstances the College may be provided with personal information about an individual from a third party, for example a report provided by a medical professional or a reference from another school.

Exception in relation to employee records: Under the Privacy Act and Health Records Act 2001 (Vic), the Australian Privacy Principles [and Health Privacy Principles] do not apply to an employee record. As a result, this Privacy Policy does not apply to the College’s treatment of an employee record, where the treatment is directly related to a current or former employment relationship between the school and employee.

3. How will the College use the personal information you provide?

The College will use personal information it collects from you for the primary purpose of collection, and for such other secondary purposes that are related to the primary purpose of collection and reasonably expected, or to which you have consented.
**Students and Parents:** In relation to personal information of students and Parents, the College's primary purpose of collection is to enable the school to provide schooling for the student. This includes satisfying the needs of Parents, the needs of the student and the needs of the College throughout the whole period the student is enrolled at the College.

The purposes for which Aitken College uses personal information of students and Parents include:

- to keep Parents informed about matters related to their child's schooling, through correspondence, newsletters and magazines;
- day-to-day administration;
- looking after students' educational, social, spiritual and medical wellbeing;
- seeking donations and marketing for the school; and
- to satisfy Aitken College's legal obligations and allow the School to discharge its duty of care.

In some cases where the College requests personal information about a student or Parent, if the information requested is not obtained, the College may not be able to enrol or continue the enrolment of the student or permit the student to take part in a particular activity.

**Job applicants, staff members and contractors:** In relation to personal information of job applicants, staff members and contractors, the College’s primary purpose of collection is to assess and (if successful) to engage the applicant, staff member or contractor, as the case may be. The purposes for which the College uses personal information of job applicants, staff members and contractors include:

- in administering the individual's employment or contract, as the case may be;
- for insurance purposes;
- seeking funds and marketing for the school; and
- to satisfy the College’s legal obligations, for example, in relation to child protection legislation.

**Volunteers:** The College also obtains personal information about volunteers who assist the College in its functions or conduct associated activities, such as Aitken College alumni associations, Parents and Friends Association, Friends of the Arts and other Parent groups, to enable the school and the volunteers to work together.

**Marketing and fundraising:** The College treats marketing and seeking donations for the future growth and development of the College as an important part of ensuring that the College continues to be a quality learning environment in which both students and staff thrive. Personal information held by the College may be disclosed to an organisation that assists in the College's fundraising, for example, alumni organisations, Parents and Friends Association or Friends of the Arts or other Parents groups or, on occasions, external fundraising organisations. Parents, staff, contractors and other members of the wider College community may from time to time receive fundraising information. College publications, like newsletters and magazines, which include personal information, may be used for marketing purposes.
4. **Who might the College disclose personal information to?**

The College may disclose personal information, including sensitive information, held about an individual to:

- another school;
- government departments;
- medical practitioners;
- people providing services to the College, including specialist visiting teachers, counsellors and sports coaches;
- recipients of College publications, such as newsletters and magazines;
- Parents;
- anyone you authorise the College to disclose information to; and
- anyone to whom we are required to disclose the information by law.

**Sending information overseas:** The College may disclose personal information about an individual to overseas recipients, for instance, when storing personal information with 'cloud' service providers which are situated outside Australia or to facilitate a school exchange. However, the College will not send personal information about an individual outside Australia without:

- obtaining the consent of the individual (in some cases this consent will be implied); or
- otherwise complying with the Australian Privacy Principles or other applicable privacy legislation.

5. **How does the College treat sensitive information?**

In referring to 'sensitive information', the College means: information relating to a person's racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religion, trade union or other professional or trade association membership, philosophical beliefs, sexual orientation or practices or criminal record, that is also personal information; health information and biometric information about an individual.

Sensitive information will be used and disclosed only for the purpose for which it was provided or a directly related secondary purpose, unless you agree otherwise, or the use or disclosure of the sensitive information is allowed by law.

6. **Management and security of personal information**

The College's staff are required to respect the confidentiality of students' and Parents' personal information and the privacy of individuals.

The College has in place steps to protect the personal information the College holds from misuse, interference and loss, unauthorised access, modification or disclosure by use of various methods including locked storage of paper records and password access rights to computerised records.
7. **Access and correction of personal information**

Under the Commonwealth Privacy Act and Health Records Act 2001 (Vic), an individual has the right to obtain access to any personal information which the College holds about them and to advise the College of any perceived inaccuracy. There are some exceptions to this right set out in the Act. Students will generally be able to access and update their personal information through their Parents, but older students may seek access and correction themselves.

There are some exceptions to these rights set out in the applicable legislation.

To make a request to access or update any personal information the College holds about you or your child, please contact the Principal in writing. The College may require you to verify your identity and specify what information you require. The College may charge a fee to cover the cost of verifying your application and locating, retrieving, reviewing and copying any material requested. If the information sought is extensive, the College will advise the likely cost in advance. If we cannot provide you with access to that information, we will provide you with written notice explaining the reasons for refusal.

8. **Consent and rights of access to the personal information of students**

The College respects every Parent's right to make decisions concerning their child's education.

Generally, the College will refer any requests for consent and notices in relation to the personal information of a student to the student's Parents. The College will treat consent given by Parents as consent given on behalf of the student, and notice to Parents will act as notice given to the student.

As mentioned above, parents may seek access to personal information held by the College about them or their child by contacting the Principal. However, there will be occasions when access is denied. Such occasions would include where release of the information would have an unreasonable impact on the privacy of others, or where the release may result in a breach of the school's duty of care to the student.

The College may, at its discretion, on the request of a student grant that student access to information held by the College about them, or allow a student to give or withhold consent to the use of their personal information, independently of their Parents. This would normally be done only when the maturity of the student and/or the student's personal circumstances so warranted.

9. **Enquiries and complaints**

If you would like further information about the way the College manages the personal information it holds, or wish to complain that you believe that the College has breached the Australian Privacy Principles, please contact the Principal. The College will investigate any complaint and will notify you of a decision in relation to your complaint as soon as is practicable after it has been made.