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FROM THE SENIOR SCHOOL DIRECTOR OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

Navigating Challenges in Teaching and Learning

Teaching and learning are complex processes. Every 50 minutes, a diverse group of adolescents gathers with a professionally trained educator to engage with the curriculum set by NESA. Each student brings their own experiences, attitudes, abilities, and perspectives—many of which can change from day to day. Likewise, teachers, while always striving for professionalism, bring their own experiences and personalities, and like everyone, they have both good and challenging days.

For the vast majority of the time, classrooms are positive, productive spaces where students flourish under the teacher's guidance. However, there may be moments when, in a lapse of judgment, teachers say or do something that does not align with expectations. Similarly, students, in moments of immaturity or impulsiveness, may act in ways that fall short of our shared standards.

Such moments can affect the teacher-student relationship and, in turn, impact learning. When concerns arise with teachers, we encourage students to first address them directly with their teacher, either in person or via email. In most cases, teachers are receptive to feedback and will take steps to address concerns or provide an opportunity for reconciliation. Teachers prefer this direct approach, as it fosters mutual respect and resolution.

If a teacher appears unwilling or unable to engage with the concern, parents and students are welcome to escalate the matter to the relevant coordinator, Director, or Senior Executive. It is

important to acknowledge that perceptions can differ, sometimes making situations seem unclear. However, by prioritising open and honest communication, we strengthen the essential partnership between teachers, students, and parents—ensuring the best possible environment for learning and growth.

Mr Jason Corbett-Jones

Director of Teaching & Learning - Senior School
