
The logo for Haverford Parent Programs features the word "Haverford" in a large, elegant, red cursive script. Below it, the words "PARENT PROGRAMS" are written in a smaller, black, all-caps serif font. The entire logo is centered between two horizontal lines.

Dear Haverford Parents and Guardians,

Haverford prides itself on both academic excellence and fostering a unique community that allows for personal growth and meaningful interactions between students, faculty, staff and administration through a climate of trust, concern and respect. This community is built around the Honor Code. The essence of the Code is realized by an open-minded group that agrees to respect its tenets. At Haverford, the Code reminds us constantly of our connection to each other and creates the tight-knit community with which we so strongly identify.

Even for freshmen, it is already apparent that the Honor Code is more than a set of rules—it defines our attitude toward one another and, more importantly, toward the community. Each individual experiences the Code differently throughout his or her time at Haverford, but all Fords share fundamentals of trust, concern and respect.

There is both an academic and a social aspect to the Honor Code. The academic aspect enables the faculty to trust the students, enables the students to trust each other and, most importantly, gives the student body a sense of academic integrity and fulfillment. Socially, we trust each other to respect and to show concern for one another. Additionally, when we see another community member violating this trust, we are obligated to openly discuss these issues with the individual involved.

Occasionally, when these dialogues cannot be resolved, we may proceed to Honor Council. Our job as members of Honor Council is to facilitate the resolution of issues that arise concerning the Code. If a student feels that a social issue has arisen that confrontation cannot resolve, a professor or if a student suspects that another student has compromised his or her academic integrity, or if an individual or group feels they themselves may have violated the Code in some way, they are obligated to bring the matter to Honor Council. Honor Council then advises on how to proceed with the case, potentially sending it to mediation, a social or academic trial with a student jury (including both Honor Council members and students randomly selected from the Haverford community), or a panel of students, Deans together with students or Deans alone.

Each semester, the Honor Code goes to Plenary, during which two thirds of the student body must ratify it. Students propose and vote on resolutions to change or amend the Code, which ensures that it is a living document and evolves with the standards of the community.

The Honor Code isn't here to change us. It outlines a disciplinary mechanism that—as opposed to that of a conventional school, with the threat of punishment—relies on the integrity of individual students to do the right thing for the community. In the end, we strive towards a resolution that will encourage education, reformation and accountability among students and the community as a whole. What we have here at Haverford is special, because our system not only creates a community that is just, equitable, compassionate and honest, but does so better than a

system of strictures that doesn't give any of the responsibility to students. The Code reminds us why we are here, of the values we have chosen and why they yield such a cohesive community.

If you have questions about the Honor Code, email code@haverford.edu where the Honor Council Co-Chairs Jacob Axelrod '14 and Emma Richards '12 will happily answer your questions. Or better yet, participate in a webinar about the Honor Code on Monday, December 5, starting at 8:00 pm EST. Watch your inbox for an invitation to submit questions and to participate in the webinar itself.

Sincerely,

Austin Boyle '15
Samara Flug '15
Zachary Gabor '15
Karina Wiener '15

Freshman Honor Council Representatives