

## McKim Elementary School Code of Conduct

The purpose of our code of conduct is to establish and maintain a safe, caring, and orderly environment for purposeful learning, and to direct students toward responsible, respectful behaviour.

At McKim School we promote a climate of understanding and mutual respect where all students are equal in dignity and rights and free from discrimination. Our goal is to be a school where students are free from harm, where clear expectations of acceptable behavior are held and met, and where all students feel they belong. In accordance with the BC Human Rights Code, discrimination on any of the following grounds is prohibited:

- Race
- Colour
- Ancestry
- Place of origin
- Religion
- Marital status
- Family status
- Physical or mental disability
- Sex
- Sexual orientation
- Gender identity or expression
- Age

At McKim School we expect all members of our school community to:

- take care of self, others, and this place
- attend school regularly and punctually
- comply with school and classroom rules

These **expectations** of acceptable and socially responsible conduct are to be followed at school, while going to and from school, while attending any school activities at any location, or in other circumstances where engaging in the activity will have an impact on the school environment.

Unacceptable conduct is **any** conduct that contravenes our school expectations as listed above.

For example:

- behaviours that:
  - interfere with the learning of others
  - interfere with an orderly environment
  - create unsafe conditions
- acts of:
  - bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, or intimidation

- threatening or violent behaviours
- retribution against a person who has reported incidents

We recognize that special considerations may apply to students with special needs who are unable to comply with expectations due to having a disability of an intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional or behavioural nature.

As students become older, more mature, and move through successive grades, we expect increasing personal responsibility and self-discipline. Consequently, there will also be increasing consequences for inappropriate behaviour.

When determining appropriate disciplinary action, there are a number of factors that will be taken into account, including the severity of the incident, frequency, and the age and maturity of the student. Students, as often as possible, are encouraged to participate in the development of meaningful consequences for violations of our code of conduct. It is our goal to be restorative, rather than punitive in our disciplinary consequences.

Teachers are expected to deal with students who breach the code of conduct in a fair and consistent manner within their classroom before referring a student to the principal. Parents will be made aware of any unacceptable or inappropriate behavior. If the situation is not effectively resolved within the classroom and the inappropriate behaviour continues, the student will be referred to the principal.

School administration has a responsibility to advise other parties of serious breaches in the code of conduct. These parties may include:

- Parents of the student offender – in every instance
- Parents of the victim – in every instance
- School district officials – as required by district policy
- Police and other agencies – as required by law

Our school and school board will take all reasonable steps to prevent retaliation against a student who has made a complaint of a breach of our code of conduct.

We encourage students and parents to inform us of any safety concerns. This can be done by talking personally with staff, calling the school, putting notes in student planners, etc.

Students should not use personal electronic devices or cell phones during instructional time or at recess unless supervised by staff for learning purposes.

Our code of conduct is reviewed and updated annually with staff, students, and parents and is posted on the parent board in our school entry as well as on our school website.

**Updated September 2018**