

Hastings Community Elementary School

Code of Conduct

(Date Reviewed September 28, 2022)

Statement of Purpose

Hastings is committed to a school code of conduct that upholds a safe, inclusive, equitable, welcoming, nurturing, and healthy school environment. The Hastings School Code of Conduct promotes clear behavioural expectations of respectful and responsible citizenship that lead to a culture of safety, caring and respect amongst everyone in our school and programs and at all school events and activities.

The Code of Conduct applies while at school, during school-organized or sponsored activities, on school buses, and to any behaviour, even if outside of school or school hours, including online behaviour, that negatively impacts the safe, caring, or orderly environment of the school and/or student learning.

Conduct Expectations

Acceptable Conduct

At school, while going to and from school, and while attending any school function at any location, students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the school code of conduct as encapsulated by the school motto: Take Care of Yourself, Take Care of Others, Take Care of this Place. The acceptable behaviours cited below are examples only and not an all-inclusive list.

- Respecting self, others, and the school
- Demonstrating commitment to learning by coming to school prepared to learn and by contributing to a safe, caring, positive, inclusive, and peaceful environment
- Seeking to prevent violence and potentially violent situations, and demonstrating their social responsibility by reporting such situations
- Demonstrating, when utilizing the Internet, social media, email or other electronic forms of communication, appropriate digital citizenship
- Showing respect for the property of others by refraining from littering, theft, vandalism, graffiti, and other inappropriate behaviours related to property
- Using respectful language and refraining from using obscenities and derogatory language
- Attending school in appropriate dress that is not obscene and does not promote alcohol or drugs, display offensive language or images, encourage discrimination, or present a health or safety problem or cause a disruption

- Practicing academic honesty and personal integrity by not participating in or encouraging plagiarism, cheating, theft of evaluation instruments, use of unauthorized aids, or false representation of identity

Unacceptable Conduct

Any behaviour contrary to the school code of conduct/motto is considered unacceptable conduct. The unacceptable behaviours cited below are examples only and not an all-inclusive list.

- **Racism and discrimination will not be tolerated in our school**
- Students shall not discriminate against others on the basis of the race, religion, colour, ancestry, place of origin, marital status, family status, age, sex or sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, or physical or mental disability, or for any other reason set out in the Human Rights Code of British Columbia, nor shall a student publish or display anything that would indicate an intention to discriminate against another, or expose them to contempt or ridicule, on the basis of any such grounds
- Taking part in or condoning (provoke, encourage, or make a spectacle of) any form of violence, including bullying, harassment, threat-making, intimidation, verbal, sexual, physical, or online abuse and harassment, or discrimination in any form
- Possessing, using, or displaying any weapon, replica weapon or toy weapon, on any school property or at any event that is organized or sponsored by a school
- Attending school or school functions while in possession of or while under the influence of any intoxicating, banned or controlled substances
- Smoking any substance, or using vaporizers or e-cigarettes on school and other District property

Retaliation Prevention

All reasonable steps will be taken to prevent retaliation against a student who has made a complaint of a breach of a code of conduct.

Consequences

Disciplinary action, wherever possible, is restorative rather than merely punitive. The school will treat seriously any behaviour that discriminates based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, physical or mental disability, sex, or sexual orientation.

Repetitive or severe unacceptable behaviour may result in increased severity of subsequent disciplinary action. The age and maturity of students are considered when determining appropriate consequences.

Special considerations may apply to students with special/diverse needs if these students are unable to comply with a code of conduct due to having a disability/challenge of an intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional, or behavioural nature.

The principal or designate has a responsibility to inform other parties of serious breaches of the code of conduct. These parties may include: staff, parent(s) of student offender(s), parent(s) of student victim(s), school district officials, police and/or other agencies, as required by law, and/or all parents.

Rising Expectations

Students are expected to learn and mature as they move through successive grades, and as such the expectations progress towards increasing personal responsibility and self-discipline, as well as increasing consequences for inappropriate conduct/unacceptable behavior.

Suspensions

In accordance with the School Act, Sec. 85 (2) (ii) and (d), the Board authorizes the principal or designate of any school in the district to suspend a student from attendance at school for up to five days.

Suspensions may be for the following reasons:

- a) because a student is willfully and repeatedly disrespectful to a teacher or to any other employee of the Board carrying out responsibilities approved by the Board;
- b) because the behaviour of the student breaches the District Code of Conduct or other policy and/or has a harmful effect on others or the learning environment of the school;
- c) because the student has failed to comply with the School Code of Conduct.

Suspensions over five days are made in consultation with the appropriate Director of Instruction as per [District Student Code of Conduct, AP 350](#). As per AP 350 7.7 an educational program must be provided.