



Waverley Public School

CODE OF CONDUCT

RATIONALE

The Ministry of Education requires that all schools develop a code of conduct which communicates to all members of the school community the standards of behaviour expected from them.

Members of the school community include: students, staff, parents(s)/guardian(s) and others such as visitors, volunteers.

The Board recognizes that all students, parents, teachers and staff have the right to be safe, and feel safe in their school community.

This school's code of conduct has been developed in accordance with the guiding principles of Safe Schools Policy in order to create a common philosophy and understanding upon which safe learning and working environments can be maintained for all school community members.

RESPONSIBILITIES

In order to uphold the right of all school members to access a safe school community, there are a number of corresponding responsibilities for which all school members must be accountable to ensure a safe and/or positive learning environment.

Common School Community Member Responsibilities

Everyone has the responsibility to

- Contribute to making the school environment safe and conducive to learning/working, free from discrimination, physical and or psychological abuse;
- Be a partner in school community and to work co-operatively with each other; and
- Model appropriate behaviour and to support the school code of conduct by upholding the standards of behaviour.

Additional Student Responsibilities

Each student has the additional responsibility to

- Exercise self-discipline, follow the established rules and accept responsibility for their actions based on age and individual ability;
- Come to school prepared, on time and ready to learn;
- Show respect for themselves, for others and for those in authority; and
- Refrain from bringing anything to school that may compromise the safety of themselves and others.

Additional Teaching Staff Responsibilities

Teaching staff have the additional responsibility to

- Help students work to their full potential and develop their self-worth;
- assess, evaluate and report student progress;
- communicate regularly and meaningfully with parents;
- discipline fairly and consistently in a manner in keeping with the Administrative Regulation on Discipline and the school code of conduct;
- be on time and prepared for all classes and school activities;
- prepare students for the full responsibilities of citizenship; and
- safeguard students from persons or conditions which interfere with the learning process.

Additional Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Responsibilities

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) has/have the additional responsibility to

- attend to their child's physical and emotional well-being;
- show an active interest in their child's school work and progress;
- communicate regularly with the school and in responding to school communication;
- help their child be neat, clean appropriately dressed and prepared for school;
- ensure that their child attends school regularly and on time;
- promptly report to the school their child's absence or late arrival;
- encourage and assist their child in following the rules of behaviour; and
- assist school staff in dealing with disciplinary issues.

STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOUR

Respect, civility and responsible citizenship

All school members must

- respect and comply with all applicable federal, provincial and municipal laws;
- demonstrate honesty and integrity;
- respect differences in people, their ideas and opinions;
- treat one another with dignity and respect at all times, and especially when there is disagreement;
- respect and treat others fairly, regardless of their race, religion, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic orientation, age of disability;

- respect the rights of others;
- show proper care and regard for school property and the property of others;
- take appropriate measures to help those in need;
- use non-violent means to resolve conflict;
- dress in a manner that is appropriate to school activities with regard to exposure, cleanliness and/or message;
- respect persons who are in a position of authority; and
- respect the need of others to work in an environment of learning and teaching.

Physical and Emotional (or Psychological) Safety

Weapons

The following will not be tolerated

- possession of any weapon or replica weapon, including but not limited to firearms;
- use of any object to threaten or intimidate another person; and
- causing injury to any person with an object.

Alcohol and Drugs

The following will not be tolerated

- possession of, or being under the influence of, or providing others with, alcohol or illegal or misusing prescription drugs.

Physical Aggression

The following will not be tolerated

- inflicting or encouraging others to inflict bodily harm on another person; and/or intimidation

Non-Physical Aggression

The following will not be tolerated

- emotional, sexual or racial actions that hurt and individual or a group of individuals;
- threatening physical harm, bully or harass others; and
- use of any form of discrimination.

Further, to all these standards of behaviour, it is expected that all school members will seek staff assistance, if necessary, to resolve conflict peacefully.

SCHOOL CODE OF CONDUCT RULES

- students must be allowed to learn;
- teachers must be allowed to teach;
- physical, verbal (oral or written), sexual or psychological abuse, bullying, or discrimination on the basis of race culture, religion, gender, language, sexual orientation, and any other attribute is not permitted;
- damage to property in the school environment (including school grounds, school buses, on school excursions) is not permitted.

NOTE: The principal may also apply these rules to a pupil when the pupil's conduct outside the School environment negatively impacts on the school.

The specific rules for Waverley P.S. are:

- to keep yourself and everyone else safe.
- to be polite and respectful to everyone (and not to be a part of bullying)
- to help yourself and others to learn
- to treat the school's property, other people's property and the school building with respect.
- to enter the school when you have permission.

SCHOOL CODE OF CONDUCT PROCEDURES

- Signs direct visitor(s) to begin their visit at the office.

STRATEGIES TO PROMOTE ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR

The school offers many programs and creates a culture which promotes good behaviour and is preventative in nature. Activities the students enjoy at school help them to be enthusiastic about school and follow the Code of Conduct.

Some of these activities include:

- presentations at assembly
- school team sports
- class trips
- choir
- Dance Club
- drama
- large spacious yard
- individual counselling through the School Board Counsellor
- use of home/school communication such as agendas, newsletters, classroom calendars
- evening activities which bring families to the school
- School Council support for school activities
- demonstrating community support e.g. Terry Fox Run
- cross divisional partnerships (reading buddies, lunch monitors)

Expectations for behaviour are clear to students. They are posted in each classroom and reviewed frequently by teachers and the principal. The principal and staff are to:

- establish a positive school climate
- maintain effective classroom management
- use encouragement and positive reinforcement of positive behaviour
- promote social skills development
- use of home-school communication strategies

Parents are encouraged to utilize community resources in assisting with parenting concerns. Some resources such as books, audio and videotapes are also available at the school.

SUPPORTIVE INTERVENTION STRATEGIES

Intervention shall be appropriate to the individual and related to the circumstances and/or actions.

- use of teachable moment
- use of verbal redirection, reminders and reinforcement
- listening and reflecting ideas and feelings back to child
- use of choices
- use of problem solving techniques
- use of behavioural contracts
- involving outside agencies
- use of interviews/discussion with students and/or parents/guardians
- use of school/Board resources including assessment and counselling

CONSEQUENCES FOR UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR

Consequences shall be appropriate to the individual, related to the circumstances and/or actions and progressive where appropriate.

The Board's Safe Schools Policy promotes progressive discipline with increasing consequences for more frequent and/or serious behavioural incidences.

- missing recess or giving up a special privilege
- home and school reinforcement for behaviour and record keeping
- restitution or community service
- losing the privilege of participation in out-of-classroom programs and co-curricular events
- exclusion from school teams on a temporary or extended basis
- removal of classroom privileges
- formal suspension for increasing time periods

The Principal may exercise his/her discretion with regard to the length of suspension, taking into consideration the child's behavioural history, age and the degree of the offense.

- warnings
- time-outs
- time-owed
- restricted privileges

EXPECTATIONS OF STAFF

If staff contravene the school code of conduct, consequences will follow the Board's personnel policies, and professional standards. For others unable to follow the school code of conduct, the principal, in consultation with the supervising superintendent, may exclude the individual through Sections 265(m) of the Education Act.

