



Aberdeen Elementary School

Code of Conduct and Expectations for Behaviour

Purpose

The purpose of the Aberdeen Code of Conduct is to establish and maintain a safe, caring and orderly environment where all children can learn. It is essential that our caring adults model and students learn that they have the right to attend a school that is safe, caring and orderly and are responsible for respecting the rights and dignity of others in learning environments free from discrimination as set out in the B.C Human Rights' Code. We all have a responsibility to do our part to sustain Aberdeen Elementary School Code of Conduct.

Acceptable Conduct

While going to and from school and while attending any school function students are expected to:

- keep their hands and feet to themselves
- respect self, respect others, respect the school and respect property
- help make the school a safe, caring and orderly place
- inform an adult of any unsafe behaviour
- do their very best to participate and learn
- act in a way that brings credit to their family and Aberdeen Elementary

Unacceptable Conduct

- Behaviour that:
 - interferes with the learning of others
 - interferes with an orderly environment
 - creates unsafe conditions
- Acts of:
 - bullying, harassment or intimidation
 - physical violence
 - retribution against a person who has reported something to an adult
- Illegal acts, such as:
 - having or sharing an illegal or restricted substance (e.g. alcohol, fireworks, tobacco)
 - having or using a weapon
 - stealing or damaging property

Consequences

The severity and frequency, age and maturity of the students are taken into consideration when unacceptable conduct occurs. Special consideration may apply to students with special needs who are unable to comply with widely held expectations.

- response to unacceptable conduct are consistent and fair
- disciplinary action, whenever possible, is preventative and restorative, rather than merely punitive
- students, as often as possible, are encouraged to participate in the development of meaningful consequences for acts of misconduct

Minor Offences

These will be handled "on the spot" by any staff member. Students will be made aware of how their actions were inappropriate and discuss how a better choice could have been made. Minor offences may result in a "Thinking paper" being completed and sent home for the parent to sign and return to the school. We understand that everyone makes mistakes. When mistakes are made, we need to think about how to make them better so that they don't continue to happen.

Major Offences

Major offences fall into two categories:

1. Conduct which interferes with or threatens the orderly functioning of the school or adversely affects the well-being of others.
2. Conduct injurious to the safety and/or dignity of students or staff. Some examples of major offences are: physical abuse, open opposition to authority, stealing, vandalism, and continuous disruptive behaviour.

The severity and frequency of unacceptable conduct as well as the age and maturity of students is considered in determining appropriate disciplinary action.

- responses to unacceptable conduct are pre planned, consistent and fair
- disciplinary action, wherever possible, is preventative and follows the principles of Restorative Action
- students, as often as possible, are encouraged to participate in the development of meaningful consequences for violations in the code of conduct
- for major offences consequences may involve one of the following:
 - in school suspensions
 - out of school suspensions
 - an Internal Board of Review

Communication

School staff have a responsibility to inform other parties on a serious breach of conduct. For example:

- parents of student who breaks the rules
- parents of the student victim
- school district officials as required by School Board policy
- police and other agencies as required by law
- all parents in a situation deemed by the principal to be important to reassure members of the school community that school officials are aware of a serious situation and are taking appropriate action to address it.

Dress Code

In keeping with District policy 9.260 a dress code is in place. As the need arises this list may be added to:

- Avoid attire that is offensive or distracting because it is extreme in style or too revealing (no spaghetti straps, belly shirts, short shorts etc)
- Avoid attire that promotes the use of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or gangs (this includes jewelry, hats, tattoos)
- Wear appropriate footwear (sneakers in PE class)
- No makeup

