

# St. Lucy School Code of Conduct

## Philosophy

As a Catholic community, we believe that the school should be a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment where student conduct is a shared responsibility between school and home. Believing that all people are created in the image and likeness of God, there can be no discrimination. We affirm the rights set out in the **Alberta Human Rights Act** and the **Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms** are afforded to all students and staff members within St. Lucy School. We affirm that pursuant to the **Alberta Human Rights Act** and the **Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms**, students and staff are protected from discrimination. More specifically discrimination refers to any conduct that serves to deny or discriminate against any person or class of persons regarding any goods, services, accommodation or facilities that are customarily available to the public, and the denial or discrimination is based on race, religious beliefs, colour, gender, physical disability, mental disability, ancestry, place of origin, marital status, source of income, family status or sexual orientation.

It is essential that together we teach accountability, responsibility, self-respect and respect of others. Together, we can promote a positive environment where each individual can succeed. The ultimate goal of our code of conduct is to have students accept responsibility for their own actions and learn from their mistakes. Our philosophy reflects the belief that given guidance and support, students will make decisions that will help to promote a positive and inclusive school environment.

## Role of Students

According to Section 12 of Alberta's School Act (June 2015), a student shall conduct himself or herself so as to reasonably comply with the following code of conduct:

- a) be diligent in pursuing the student's studies
- b) attend school regularly and punctually,
- c) co-operate with everyone authorized by the board to provide education programs and other services;
- d) comply with the rules of the school;
- e) account to the student's teachers for the student's conduct;
- f) respect the rights of others;
- g) ensure that the student's conduct contributes to a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging;
- h) refrain from, report and not tolerate bullying or bullying behavior directed toward others in the school, whether or not it occurs within the school building, during the school day or by electronic means;
- i) positively contribute to the student's school and community.

## Acceptable Behavior Expectations

### Staff are expected to:

- treat everyone with dignity, consistency, fairness and respect.
- demonstrate an attitude of service and create a Christian community by modeling our core values of loyalty, dignity, respect, fairness, honesty and personal and communal growth.

### Students are expected to:

- respect self and others by using respectful ways of talking and interacting.

- cooperate with all school staff.
- respect the property of the school, inside and outside.
- act in ways that honours and appropriately represents the school community.
- use social media to contribute to a caring, safe, respectful learning environment.
- attend school regularly and punctually.
- participate positively in class, contributing to own and others' learning.
- report acts of misconduct, especially bullying or discrimination to a staff member.

**Parents must ensure that their conduct contributes to a welcoming, caring, respectful, safe environment and are expected to:**

- speak respectfully to school staff.
- speak positively about the school, staff, other students and their families in front of their children.
- discuss any concerns with their child's teacher in a timely manner.
- ensure that their child arrives at school on time and attends school regularly.

**Unacceptable behavior, whether or not they occur within the school building, during the school day, or by electronic means may result in an in-school or out of school suspension. Examples of unacceptable behaviour include:**

- physical or verbal aggression (include bullying\*)
- continuous disruptive behavior
- defiance of authority
- demonstration of harassment, intimidation, coercion, or force
- internet abuse / intimidation
- fighting
- behaviors that are dangerous to the safety of others
- intentional damage to property
- use of, and/or possession of a weapon
- theft
- discrimination

**\*Section 1(1)(d) of the School Act defines bullying as:**

Repeated and hostile or demeaning behaviour by an individual in the school community where the behaviour is intended to cause harm, fear or distress to one or more other individuals in the school community, including psychological harm or harm to an individual's reputation.

**Bullying can take different forms:**

- Physical – pushing, hitting
- Verbal - name calling, threats
- Social – exclusion, rumors
- Cyber – using the computer or other technology to harass or threaten

If a child is being bullied or observes bullying, the child needs to report the incidents to his/her teacher or the school administration. If a child tells a parent about the incident, the parent needs to report the incidents to the teacher and/or school administration.

When informed of an incident of bullying, the teacher and/or school administration will investigate the incident and determine if this is a bullying situation. If it is determined that bullying has occurred, the student who has bullied others will be disciplined, in accordance with possible consequences listed above. A continuum of supports will be provided to students who are impacted by inappropriate

behavior as well as for students who engage in inappropriate behavior.

### **Natural Consequences of Unacceptable Behavior**

Consequences for unacceptable behavior will take into consideration individual needs and unique student attributes such as age, maturity, and individual circumstances. They will include preventative procedures, supportive procedures and a continuum of supports for minor breaches of conduct, and fair, corrective interventions to address major breaches of conduct.

- Reflection time
- Mediation by peers, teacher, administration
- Loss of privileges
- Time out and debriefing
- Clean, repair or replace damaged property
- Consultation with parents
- Warning letter

Unacceptable behavior may result in an in-school or out of school suspension in accordance with Section 12 of the School Act.

- In-School Suspension
- Out of school Suspension

This Student Code of Conduct Policy was developed by the school community with input from students, parents, and school staff and will be reviewed and adapted as necessary on an annual basis. It will also be communicated to all members of the school community on an annual basis.