

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY

SCHOOL DISCIPLINE

The school's philosophy on discipline is based on a positive proactive approach that promotes appropriate student behaviour. Total staff ownership of this philosophy is reflected by teachers being responsible for using effective teaching strategies and classroom management skills to minimize and deal with discipline problems. With this philosophy in mind, it is our desire to create, through our Student Conduct Policy, an environment that is welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe for all who work, learn, and visit our school.

The school's philosophy also focuses on the understanding that students must constantly make decisions as to whether they will contribute positively or negatively within the school setting. Our philosophy reflects the belief that given support, students will make decisions that will help promote a happy and healthy school environment.

It is our belief that close, **ongoing communication between home, school, and parish is essential** to this development. We are a Catholic community attempting to follow Christ's word – *"Love one another as I have loved you,"* or *"Do unto other as you would have them do unto you."* When children set themselves apart from our Christian community by inappropriate behaviours, a progressive discipline method will be employed.

Our conduct strategies emphasize:

- the development of self-discipline through understanding the process of natural and logical consequences for one's actions
- the right of all members of a school community to safety, dignity, and respect

We affirm that the rights set out in the Alberta Human Rights Act (AHRA) refers to any conduct that serves to deny or discriminate against any person or class or persons regarding any goods, services, accommodations or facilities that are customarily available to the public is forbidden if the denial or discrimination is based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religious beliefs, gender (including pregnancy, sexual harassment, and gender identity), physical disability, marital status, family status, source of income, or sexual orientation. (www.albertahumanrights.ab.ca/services.asp).

Communication with parents will be a highlight of this procedure. Home and school will work cooperatively together to establish and maintain a school environment that is welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe.

The Student Code of Conduct policy is developed by our school community, based on input from students, parents, and school staff. It is annually reviewed and revised, if necessary, with staff at the opening meeting in September as well as presented to the School Council for their feedback and input. It is printed in the School Handbook at the front of the student agenda as well as posted on the school website.

In conclusion, Edmonton Catholic School District (ECSD) is a Catholic/Christian community, that is inspired by and committed to the following values: Dignity and Respect, Honesty, Loyalty, Fairness and Personal and Communal Growth. It is our belief at École Bishop Savaryn School that our Student Code of Conduct policy reflects these core values and mission statement as an inclusive Catholic/Christian community.

The following outlines the possible consequences of misbehaviours that occur within the school building, during the school day or by electronic means.

MINOR MISCONDUCT

Minor misconducts will be handled “on the spot” by staff members stopping students and reminding them of the school-wide expectation. Unacceptable behaviour will be identified, and students will be reminded to display acceptable behaviour. Some examples of minor misconducts are:

- disrupting the learning environment
- not completing homework
- disrespectful behaviour toward staff
- unkind behaviour toward other students
- lying to staff

Each teacher will have their own unique classroom behaviour plan that will:

- teach students new and/or desired behaviours
- allow teachers to recognize and reward desired behaviours
- consistently apply consequences for inappropriate behaviour

MAJOR MISCONDUCT

Major misconduct is behaviour that interferes with the orderly functioning of the school and threatens the safety and/or dignity of students or staff. Parents are notified of all major misconduct infractions. Major misconduct includes the following:

- repeated occurrence of any minor misconduct
- defiance of authority, willful disobedience
- hitting, rough housing, tripping, throwing objects, fighting, spitting
- threatening or intimidation of others
- abusive language/gestures/swearing
- emotional abuse/put-downs
- misuse of technology
- willful destruction of property/stealing
- bringing a weapon to school
- bullying behaviour (physical, verbal, social, cyber) within the school, during the day, or by electronic means

NOTE: Bullying is unwanted and repeated aggressive behaviour that involves a real or perceived power imbalance and targets one specific person.

The following discipline measures may be enacted at the discretion of the administration, depending on the age, maturity, and circumstances of the individual child – avoiding a “one-size fits all” approach:

Time Out

- Student will be asked to leave the classroom and go to a supervised location
- Student will lose extracurricular privileges

In-School Suspension (In accordance with Section 24 of the School Act)

- Student is not included in their regular classroom for a set amount of time
- Student is placed in a supervised working area
- Student misbehaving during their suspension will be sent home
- May require a meeting with student and parents before returning to the classroom

Out of School Suspension (In accordance with Section 24 of the School Act)

- One to five days at home
- Student will lose extracurricular privileges for the duration of the suspension
- Meeting with student and parents before returning to the classroom

Based on the individual needs of students, a continuum of supports will be provided to students impacted by inappropriate behaviour as well as for students who engage in inappropriate behaviour.

Parents will be notified by phone and in writing when a student receives a suspension.

Responsibilities of Students:

- Respect yourself and the rights of others in the school.
- Attend school regularly and punctually. Be ready to learn.
- Make sure your conduct contributes to a welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging in the school.
- Refrain from, report, and refuse to tolerate bullying to an adult in the school that you trust. This ensures that the unacceptable behaviour stops immediately and that the safety of all students is restored. If you need support telling an adult at school you can talk to a parent, relative, coach, mentor, or friend and have them help you report bullying to the school.
- Be accountable for your behaviour to your teachers.

Responsibilities of Parents:

- Pay attention to how you talk about other children and the school in front of your child.
- Model kindness. Take responsibility for your mistakes. Model peaceful problem solving when you have a conflict.
- Report any problems at school to the teacher as soon as you can. Problems are easier to solve when they haven't been going on for a long time. The best place to start is with your child's teacher.