



ST. PATRICK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

CODE OF CONDUCT

Discipline with Dignity

“Discipline is a noun, something all children should possess. Discipline is not a verb, something we do to children.” Maria Montessori

At St. Patrick Elementary School, maintaining the dignity of each person, in all situations, is crucial in managing behaviour. Effective discipline comes from the belief that teaching individuals to take responsibility for their behaviour is more motivating in creating behavioural changes than teaching individuals to be obedient in order to avoid punishment.

At St. Patrick Elementary School, we believe in the responsibility model of discipline. By implementing logical and consistent consequences, and by providing individuals with opportunities to become responsible and caring members of the community, they will learn about their behaviour, their choices, and their impact on others while still maintaining their dignity.

UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOURS

Unacceptable behaviours are those that interfere with the safety and well being of ALL staff and students, in school, during any school sponsored event or field trip, on the bus or in social media: they include all aspects of bullying.

Physical Aggression:

Pushing, grabbing, hitting, pinching, spitting, tripping, etc.

Social Alienation:

Gossiping, embarrassing others, ethnic slurs, excluding from a group, etc.

Verbal Aggression:

Mocking, put downs, swearing at others, etc.

Intimidation:

Threatening others to do something, threatening with a weapon, playing a dirty trick, etc.

Sexual Harassment:

Remarks, gestures, or actions of a sexual nature.

Cyber Bullying:

Using the Internet to bully another student by means of email, chat rooms, any type of social media, texting, etc.

BULLYING IS DEFINED AS:

- When a person is the target, over time, of repeated negative actions.
- When one person has more power, so the person being victimized feels that they can't defend him/herself.
- When a person, who is the target, may feel embarrassed, hurt, scared and/or angry.
- Law 19 amended the Education Act to state that Bullying is defined as:

“A repeated direct or indirect behaviour, comment, act or gesture whether deliberate or not, including in cyberspace, which occurs in a context where there is a power imbalance between the persons concerned and which causes distress, and injures, hurts, oppresses, intimidates or ostracizes”

(<http://www2.publicationsduquebec.gouv.qc.ca/dynamicSearch/telecharge.php?type=5&file=2012C19A.PDF>, paragraph 2.1.1; downloaded Nov. 12, 2012)

MINOR INFRACTIONS:

- Name calling
- Ignoring the bell
- Leaving school boundaries
- Neglecting to show appropriate hallway/assembly behaviour
- Displaying disrespectful behaviour
- Late for school/class
- Littering
- Throwing objects
- Inappropriate dress
- Not signing out
- Eating in hallways
- Wearing headgear in school
- Going to parking lot at break

CONSEQUENCES

- Virtues worksheet
- Verbal reminder
- Student removed from situation
- Recess or noon hour detention
- Child phones home and explains
- Community service (yard clean up)
- Note in agenda
- Parent called

CARING BEHAVIORS

- Walkout (virtues activity)
- Note of apology/spoken apology
- Written reflection about incident
- Teaching opportunity (student prepares lesson for younger students)
- Community service
- Project

MAJOR INFRACTIONS

- Fighting
- Bullying
- Smoking
- Alcohol or drug use
- Vandalism
- Theft/Extortion
- Swearing
- Repetitive minor infractions (3/month)
- Disrespectful behaviour
- Bus report
- Threats
- Anything that compromises the safety of others and self
- Others

CONSEQUENCES

- Administrative involvement
- Parents informed by phone, email or letter

- Service project
- Walkout (virtues activity)
- Virtues worksheet
- Detentions at recess, noon or after school
- Loss of privileges
- In-school suspension
- Out of school suspension
- Child phones home
- Documentation in cumulative file
- Police involvement

CARING BEHAVIORS

Same list as minor infractions

NO-NONSENSE PROCEDURE

STEP 1: The individual caught bullying sits down with the **“adults in charge”** (teacher, administrator, supervisor) to talk about the incident and review the **discipline** policy. Consequence and caring **behaviour** are determined and homeroom teacher is advised. Incident is documented.

STEP 2: Bully, **“adult in charge”** and homeroom teacher sit down and discuss incident and review discipline policy again. Consequence and caring **behaviour** are determined. Parents are contacted and informed of the **behaviour** and the consequence. Both student and parents are made aware of the next step. Incident is documented.

STEP 3: Student, teacher, administration and parents meet and discuss consequences and caring behaviour. Parents, teacher and administration are involved in the follow-up and the final warning is issued. (Police are included if **behaviour** is severe and charges can be laid). Incident is documented.

STEP 4: Student is removed from the school.