



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”

The following misbehaviours, consequences and interventions listed in our Code of Conduct are not limited to these examples. Please note that consequences and interventions are determined by the school team.

MINOR MISBEHAVIOURS:

- Name calling
- Ignoring the bell
- Inappropriate language
- Neglecting to show appropriate hallway/assembly behaviour
- Displaying disrespectful behaviour
- Late for school/class
- Littering
- Bus report
- Throwing objects
- Inappropriate dress
- Wearing hats in the school
- Leaving a classroom without permission

CONSEQUENCES/INTERVENTIONS:

- Verbal reminder
- Student removed from situation
- Recess or noon hour detention
- Child phones home and explains
- Community service (yard clean up)
- Teacher note in agenda
- Pink slip (behaviour report) completed and sent home via email/agenda
- Parent called

MAJOR MISBEHAVIOURS:

- Leaving school boundaries
- Fighting
- Physicality that causes harm to others
- Bullying
- Smoking, alcohol or drug use
- Vandalism
- Theft/Extortion
- Swearing
- Repetitive minor infractions (3/month)
- Disrespectful behaviour
- Threats
- Anything that compromises the safety of others and self
- Sexual harassment/misconduct

CONSEQUENCES/INTERVENTIONS:

- Administrative involvement
- Parents informed by phone, email, pink slip (behaviour report) or letter
- Service project
- Detentions at recess, noon or after school
- Loss of privileges
- In-school suspension
- Out of school suspension
- Removal from classroom
- Modified school schedule
- Child phones home
- Documentation in cumulative file
- Police involvement

CARING BEHAVIOURS for minor and major misbehaviours:

- Note of apology/spoken apology
- Written (or picture) reflection about incident
- Teaching opportunity (student prepares lesson for younger students)
- Community service
- Project
- Other possible acts of kindness or repair

Clearly articulated progression of consequences: 'NO-NONSENSE PROCEDURE'

(as written in St. Patrick Elementary School's Anti-bullying and Anti-Violence Plan)

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 teachers are 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 may be removed from the school.

Technology – Digital Rights and Responsibilities

At St. Patrick Elementary, the following rules have been developed in order to ensure student and adult safety and security while using the Internet/Technology.

- I will not give out any form of personal information such as my name, address, telephone number the same for any classmates, or the location of the school without permission from my teacher or parents.
- I will never send anyone a picture of myself or a message without my teacher's permission.
- I understand that I may only visit sites that have been approved by my teacher. If I should encounter any information or visual representation that makes me uncomfortable I will tell my teacher immediately.
- Cell phones and electronic devices (including, but not limited to; smartwatches, tablets, Apple products, personal gaming devices) brought from home are not permitted on school property or on school trips. The use of a phone or electronic device brought from home by a student will result the first time in its confiscation and a phone call to parents and if this should occur a second time, parents will be required to pick it up from Administration.

Digital Rights and Responsibilities

Digital citizenship involves understanding the social, ethical and legal issues relating to all aspects of technology, in order to use it appropriately and effectively. There are rights and responsibilities that go hand in hand with being a good digital citizen. The rights and responsibilities listed below apply to all users of the Lester B. Pearson School Board network.

I have the **RIGHT** to:

- learn and work in a safe, appropriate, and secure environment free from harassment
- use the school board network for educational purposes
- be respected as an individual
- express opinions, ideas and feelings, while keeping in mind the rights of others
- have my digital identity protected from unauthorized use
- have managed access to the internet
- report any action interfering with a safe learning environment to the appropriate authority

I have the **RESPONSIBILITY** to:

- contribute to a positive culture of learning
- use school/centre space and equipment, as well as personal devices, in an appropriate, responsible and respectful way
- respect others and their right to privacy
- practice safe, appropriate and legal and responsible use of information and technology
- protect my personal information and that of others
- engage in technology use for educational purposes and respect for educational value

* Students are given access to technology in order to work at school. Students who misuse technology at school (to chat online, play games or distract from the educational focus of the lesson) will forfeit the right to use technology during the school day.