



POLICY

SO-12

CODE OF CONDUCT

Superintendent Responsible: Superintendent of Education, Safe and Inclusive Schools	Initial Effective Date: 2020/02/24
Last Updated: 2023/06/26	Next Review Date: 2025/06/13

Objective:

To promote learning, well-being and belonging, through responsibility, respect, and civility, fostering an anti-oppressive, anti-racist, and inclusive culture.

Policy Statement:

Responsible citizenship involves active participation in the civic life of the school community. Engaged citizens are aware of their rights and accept responsibility for protecting their rights and the rights of others.

1.0 Purposes of the Code

- To ensure that all members of the school community, especially people in positions of authority, are treated with respect and dignity
- To promote responsible citizenship by encouraging appropriate participation in the civic life of the school community
- To maintain an environment where conflict and difference can be addressed in a manner characterized by respect and civility
- To encourage the use of non-violent means to resolve conflict
- To promote the safety of people in schools
- To discourage the use of alcohol, electronic cigarettes, illegal drugs and, except by a medical cannabis user, cannabis
- To prevent bullying, including cyber-bullying in schools

2.0 Standards of Behaviour

2.1 Respect, civility, and responsible citizenship

All members of the school community must:

- Respect and comply with all applicable federal, provincial, and municipal laws
- Demonstrate honesty and integrity
- Respect differences in people, their ideas, and their opinions
- Treat one another with dignity and respect at all times, and especially when there is disagreement
- Respect and treat others fairly, regardless of race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, creed, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, marital status, family status, or disability
- Respect the rights of others
- Show proper care and regard for school property and the property of others
- Take appropriate measures to help those in need
- Seek assistance from a school employee, if necessary, to resolve conflict peacefully
- Respect all members of the school community, especially persons in positions of authority
- Respect the need of others to work in an environment that is conducive to learning and teaching, including by ensuring that personal mobile devices

are only used during instructional time for the educational and other permitted purposes outlined in this policy

- Refrain from using abusive language or swearing at another person

2.2 Safety

All members of the school community must not:

- Engage in bullying behaviours, including cyber-bullying
- Commit sexual assault or sexual harassment
- Traffic in weapons or illegal drugs
- Commit robbery or theft
- Be in possession of any weapon, including firearms
- Use any object to threaten or intimidate another person
- Cause injury to any person with an object
- Be in possession of, or be under the influence of alcohol, cannabis (unless the individual has been authorized to use cannabis for medical purposes), and illegal drugs or related products
 - For students this would also include being in possession of electronic cigarette, tobacco, and nicotine products
- Provide others with alcohol, electronic cigarettes, illegal drugs, cannabis (unless the recipient is an individual authorized to use cannabis for medical purposes) and related products
- Inflict or encourage others to inflict bodily harm on another person
- Engage in hate propaganda and other forms of behaviour motivated by hate or bias
- Commit an act of vandalism that causes extensive damage to school property or to property located on the premises of the school
- Record, take or share non-consensual recordings or photos of members of the school community

Reference(s):

- [Acceptable Use of Information Technology Policy \(IT-01\)](#)
- [Acceptable Use of Information Technology Procedure \(IT-001\)](#)
- [Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy \(SO-10\)](#)
- [Bullying Prevention and Intervention Procedure \(SO-010\)](#)
- [Code of Conduct Procedure \(SO-012\)](#)
- [Equity and Inclusive Education Policy \(SO-14\)](#)
- [Equity and Inclusive Education Procedure \(SO-014\)](#)
- [Progressive Discipline and Promoting Positive Behaviour Procedure \(SO-011\)](#)
- [Smoke Free Environment Procedure \(FA-012\)](#)
- Student Expulsions Policy (SO-07)
- Student Expulsions Procedure (SO-007)
- [Student Suspension Policy \(SO-06\)](#)
- [Student Suspension Procedure \(SO-006\)](#)
- [Education Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. E.2](#)
- [Provincial Model for a Local Police/School Board Protocol, 2015](#)
- [The Provincial Code of Conduct and School Board Codes of Conduct \(PPM 128\)](#)