



# Serpentine Heights Elementary School

## Code of Conduct

Updated: April, 2022

**The purpose of this code of conduct is to create a respectful, safe, and Inclusive learning environment, which supports students in developing socially responsible behaviours and attitudes.**

### Student Behavioural Support

All children have the right to learn in a safe, caring and orderly environment. We expect that students will maintain an attitude that is cooperative, courteous and respectful. **When behavioural mistakes occur, we help them learn the skills to change their behaviour and have better strategies to manage situations.** The following framework helps students understand and meet these expectations.

### Behaviour Guidelines/School Rules

#### Take Care of Yourself

*Caring about your learning and yourself, including safety.*

- be safe - walk calmly, stay in designated areas, report dangerous situations, play safely
- be on time and ready to work
- always do your best
- wash your hands
- do your homework and use your planner

#### Take Care of Others

*Being considerate of others' personal feelings and properties.*

- be polite and wait your turn
- treat others with respect
- use good listening skills
- be honest and tell the truth

#### Take Care of This Place

*Caring about your school and your environment.*

- clean up after yourself
- pick up litter when you see it
- take good care of materials
- ask before borrowing

### Behaviour Expectations

Acceptable and unacceptable behavior while at school, attending school related activities (both on and off school grounds) or in any other circumstances where engaging in the activity will have an impact on the school environment.

*It is important to note that the acceptable and unacceptable behaviours that follow are not all-inclusive lists.*

## **Acceptable Behaviour**

Serpentine Heights students are given many class-wide and school-wide opportunities to learn what our motto, "*Take Care of Yourself, Take Care of Others, and Take Care of this Place*" feels like, looks like, and sounds like. Expectations are taught and reinforced through modeling and reteaching. Common language is used (Take Care of ...). Student leaders act as role models for our desired behaviours in a number of school activities and events.

- Walking and playing safely inside and outside.
- Using respectful language with everyone.
- Being an active learner in all classes.
- Doing their best on all schoolwork.
- Arriving at school on time and attending daily.
- Solving conflicts in a respectful and calm way.
- Cooperating with all adults in the school.
- Looking after school property and keeping the school and grounds clean.
- Treating themselves with respect and dignity.

## **Unacceptable Behaviour - including, but not limited to:**

- Disrupting the learning of others.
- Disrespectful behaviour to anyone at the school.
- Unsafe play (play fighting, wrestling, throwing objects) or physical aggression.
- Swearing, name-calling, teasing or harassment of others.
- Gossip, exclusion, or other forms of social bullying, including via technology.
- Intentional destruction of or damaging property.
- Theft or dishonesty.
- Use of tobacco, alcohol or drugs.
- Possession of any weapon or replica.
- Making threats, including retribution towards someone making a complaint.

## **Intervention and Consequences**

Consequences will take into account the age, maturity and individual needs (e.g. intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional or behavioural disability), severity and frequency of actions. Consequences will be progressive and will focus on being restorative rather than punitive in nature. Depending upon these and other factors, one or more of the following actions may be taken:

For **minor** misbehaviours: a problem-solving discussion with an adult, an apology, practice of expected behaviour, reflection and problem solving.

For **more serious or repeated misbehaviours**: parent contact, reconciliation with the other party, removal from activities until safety is ensured, loss of privileges, re-teaching of expectations and skills, or behaviour support with school staff.

For **serious offences**: formal documentation of the incident, parent conference, restitution, behavioural plan, or referral to school counsellor; if needed, school suspension in accordance with Section 26 & 85 of the BC School Act and Surrey School Policy 9410.

## **Notification**

In the case of serious offenses, a school administrator will notify parties as follows:

- Parent of student (in every instance) exhibiting serious behavior difficulties
- Parent of student (in every instance) who is the target of another student's serious behavior difficulties
- Associate Superintendent and/or other District Staff as necessary
- Ministerial Agencies and/or School Liaison Officer (Police) as necessary

## **Rising Expectations**

Although our expectations apply to all students, there is a progression of expectations held for students as they gain experience and develop a deeper understanding of our Guiding Principles and our Code of Conduct.

Serpentine Heights staff members expect students to become increasingly responsible for monitoring their own decisions and therefore, developmentally appropriate interventions and/or consequences are applied as they move up through the grades.

## **Safe & Caring School Environments**

### **Are free from acts of:**

- Criminal behaviour
- Bullying, cyber-bullying, harassment, threat, intimidation
- Violence in any form
- Abuse in any form
- Discrimination in any form
- Theft
- Vandalism
- Retribution against a person who has reported incidents

### **Do not tolerate the presence of:**

- Intoxicating or banned substances (including alcohol, cigarettes and drugs).
- Weapons or replica (toy) weapons (including laser pointers); explosives (including fireworks) and pepper or other obnoxious sprays.
- Intruders or trespassers (all visitors must first report to the office).
- Inappropriate clothing or unacceptable slogans imprinted on clothing.

## **Dress Code**

Each school shall adopt a dress code that attempts to balance individual liberty, social convention, functionality, community standards and school community values.

Staff and students are expected to dress in ways that are appropriate for their particular roles in the school and that show respect for themselves, for others and for the school.

In the case of student dress, there should be a partnership between student, parent and school that provides sufficient, but not excessive, guidance so students not only dress appropriately, but also learn to make good independent decisions regarding dress.

## **Electronic Devices/Technology**

- School computers, networks and other devices are only to be used for school related activities. They are not permitted for social networking, gaming, illegal, obscene or inappropriate purposes. Students must not attempt to vandalize, gain unauthorized access to data or another person's account or resources, or share data without personal or parental consent as appropriate.
- **Students must not photograph or record anyone at school**, unless permission has been received by the classroom teacher with respect to a classroom project.
- Students may be subject to discipline and/or confiscation of personal property for misuse of any technology that negatively impacts the school environment.
- Misuse of district technology services will lead to suspension of privileges and legal action if appropriate