



COAST MERIDIAN ELEMENTARY

www.surreyschools.ca/coastmeridian

CODE OF CONDUCT

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Rationale for the Code of Conduct with a focus on safe, caring and orderly school environments.

To establish and maintain a safe, caring and orderly school environment.

The purpose of the Code of Conduct is to inform all members of the school community of our shared obligations and responsibilities while in attendance at school, while traveling to and from school, and at any school functions at any location.

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. There will be rising expectations of behaviour as students mature.

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

Acceptable Behaviour:

At Coast Meridian Elementary we believe that all students have the right to learn in an environment free of discrimination on the basis of race, culture, colour, gender, religion or special needs. Aggressive behaviours, violence, or threats of violence, intimidation harassment or any form of bullying will not be tolerated.

- I respect myself and others.
- I care about safety.
- I act with common sense.
- I put my best effort into my work.
- I care for school property.

Unacceptable Behaviour:

For example:

- behaviours that:
 - interfere with the learning of others
 - interfere with an orderly environment
 - create unsafe conditions
- acts of:
 - Physical Bullying:** includes hitting, kicking, tripping and pushing.
 - Verbal Bullying:** includes name-calling, insults, teasing, intimidation, homophobic or racist remarks or verbal abuse.
 - Social, Emotional and Relational Bullying:** use of behaviours to deeply hurt others and harm a person's social reputation and/or cause humiliation. Social, emotional and relational bullying includes: lying and spreading rumours; playing nasty jokes to embarrass or humiliate; mimicking unkindly; encouraging others to socially exclude someone; damaging someone's social reputation or social acceptance.
 - Cyber Bullying:** overt or covert bullying behaviour using digital technologies. Examples include harassment over text message, inappropriate/discriminatory/insulting/threatening images or posts on social media; setting up a defamatory personal website or deliberately excluding someone from social networking spaces. Cyber bullying can happen at any time. It can be in public or in private and sometimes is only known to the target and to the person perpetuating the bullying.

Students have a responsibility to inform an adult at the school if they know of any breaches of the code of conduct. All reasonable steps will be taken to protect against retaliation towards anyone reporting a violation.

SAFE & CARING SCHOOLS –

ARE FREE FROM ACTS OF:

- Bullying (including cyber-bullying)
- Harassment, threat, intimidation and marginalization
- Violence in any form
- Abuse in any form (verbal, physical, sexual)
- Intolerance and discrimination in any form, i.e. based on an individual or group's race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, political belief, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, or age.
- Retribution against a person who has reported incident

DO NOT TOLERATE THE PRESENCE OF:

- Intoxicating or banned substances (including alcohol, cigarettes and drugs)
- Vandalism or theft of school property (or damage to personal property)
- 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.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES/COMPUTERS –

- School computers and other electronic devices are only to be used for school/education related activities. They are not permitted for social networking, gaming, illegal, obscene or inappropriate purposes. Inappropriate use includes, but is not limited to, attempts to vandalize, gain unauthorized access to data or another person’s account or resources, and sharing of data without personal or parental consent as appropriate.
- Recording of visual images is not permissible at school unless permission has been received by the classroom teacher with respect to a classroom project.
- Students are to be aware that they may be subject to discipline (or, if applicable, confiscation of personal property) for misuse of any technology, if it negatively impacts the school environment.
- Misuse of district technology services will lead to suspension of user privileges and possible disciplinary or legal action.

CONSEQUENCES

Consequences will take into account the age, maturity and special 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:

Rising Expectations

All staff at Coast Meridian Elementary understand that as students rise through the grades, they mature and are able to take more responsibility for their behaviour. Incidents are approached on an individual basis and take into account students' development, level of maturity and experiences.

Behaviour Interventions

Student behaviour is always considered in the context in which it occurs. The age of the child, special needs, frequency of the behaviour, its seriousness or intensity, and the circumstances are taken into account. Consequences may include, but are not limited to those listed below:

- Code of Conduct discussion with staff, an apology, practice of expected behaviour, reflection and problem solving;
- Parent contact, loss of privileges until improved behaviour is seen, substantive re-teaching
- Formal documentation of the incident, parent conference, restitution, behavioural plan, or referral to school counsellor;
- In-school or out-of-school suspension in accordance with Section 26& 85 of the BC School Act and Surrey School Policy 9410.

NOTIFICATION:

School administration will advise parties as follows:

- Parent/guardian of student exhibiting major behavior problem - every instance.
- Parent/guardian of student on the receiving end of an incident - every instance.

- Assistant Superintendent, Safe Schools Department and/or other District Staff dependent on the seriousness of the offence.
- Ministerial agencies and/or School Liaison Officer (RCMP) dependent on seriousness of the offence.

OTHER

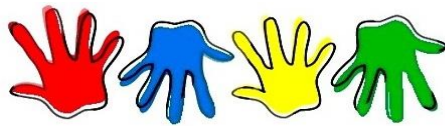
Parents as Partners

Support your child in building social responsibility by:

- Teaching and re-teaching problem-solving skills
- Modeling socially appropriate ways of getting along.
- Helping your child find safe ways to express anger or frustration.
- Listening to your child and responding to their needs and concerns in ways that develop social capacity.
- Helping your child understand the value of individual differences
- Monitoring and discussing television viewing.
- Monitoring computer and game use at home ensuring a healthy balance of social activities.

Support the home-school connection by:

- Contacting the teacher or principal if you have concerns about the behaviour or safety of your child at school.
- Learning about and, where appropriate, participating in the problem resolution process at the school.
- Using the language of the school's code of conduct at home and at school with your child



it takes a village to raise a child

REFERENCES

This Elementary Code of Conduct has been structured to align with, and adhere to the standards outlined in:

- The School Act 85 (1.1); 168 (2) (s.1); Provincial Standards Ministerial Order 276/07 (m276/07), effective October 17, 2007.
- BC Human Rights Code, as depicted in Surrey Schools Anti-Discrimination and Human Rights Policy No.10900; and Regulation No. 10900.1
- BC Ministry of Education: Safe, Caring and Orderly Schools, A Guide (November 2008) and Developing and Reviewing Code of Conduct: A Companion (August 2007), both found at <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sco/>
- Surrey Schools – Safe and Caring School Handbook – policies, procedures and guidelines for schools found on <http://www.surreyschools.ca>
- Ministerial Order No.M 208: (a) a reference to each of the prohibited grounds of discrimination set out in section 7 (*discriminatory publication*) and section 8 (*discrimination in accommodation, service and facility*) of the *Human Rights Code*, RSBC 1996, c. 210;