

SOUTH MERIDIAN ELEMENTARY

www.surreyschools.ca/schools/southmeridian

2018-2019

CODE OF CONDUCT

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

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

At South Meridian Elementary, we believe all students have the right to learn in a safe, caring and orderly environment and maintain an attitude that is courteous and respectful.

Our Code of Conduct is designed to provide guidelines for appropriate student, staff, and community participation in our school environment whether inside or outside the school. At South Meridian, we value this important partnership in helping students achieve academic excellence, personal growth and responsible citizenship.

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:

- Be respectful of yourself, others and our school property and environment
- Speak to everyone in a courteous and respectful way
- Work and play safe
- Be co-operative by listening and talking to find solutions
- Be supportive of others
- Learn to the best of your ability
- Play fair - keep hands and body to self; use kind words
- Follow adult directions
- Be respectful of neighbourhood private property

Unacceptable Behaviour:

- Hitting, play fighting, fighting, any other physically aggressive contact
- Lack of respect for others: teasing, put-downs, name-calling, isolating, threatening, humiliating, harassment, intimidation, defiant behaviour, bullying, cyber-bullying, etc.
- Rudeness, swearing
- Throwing objects: rocks, sticks, snowballs, etc.
- Lack of respect for school property or neighbours' property
- Misusing equipment of any kind (technology, sports equipment, etc)
- Violence in any form, theft, vandalism

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, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression.
- Retribution against a person who has reported incidents

DO NOT TOLERATE THE PRESENCE OF:

- Intoxicating or banned substances (including alcohol, cigarettes and drugs)
- Theft and vandalism (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

MISUSE OF 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:

- Review of expectations and a timeout
- Review of expectations, written assignment and/or loss of privileges
- Parents informed
- School / community services / restitution
- Meeting with parents
- Short-term (in-school or at home) suspensions up to 5 days
- Long-term suspension over 5 days or referral to a district program
- Consultation with police and/or fire department and/or District Staff
- Suspension/Expulsion

NOTIFICATION:

School administration will advise parties as follows:

- Parent/guardian of student exhibiting major behaviour problem.
- Parent/guardian of student on the receiving end of such an incident.
- Assistant Superintendent, Safe Schools Department and/or other District Staff
- Ministerial agencies and/or School Liaison Officer (RCMP)

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;

South Meridian Elementary

Rights & Responsibilities



RIGHTS

I have the right to:

- Be safe.
- Learn in this classroom.
- Be respected.
- Privacy and my own personal space.
- Hear and be heard.
- Be proud of my heritage, culture and religious beliefs.

RULES

I can keep/use:

- Hands and body to myself.
- Kind words.
- Respectful language, actions, choices.

RESPONSIBILITIES

I have a responsibility to:

- Follow school expectations and do things safely.
- Listen to instructions and work quietly when required.
- Treat others with respect and be a positive contributor to my classroom and school.
- Respect personal property of others and respect their space and privacy.
- Listen when others are speaking.
- Respect the diversity in our school.

CONSEQUENCES

The consequences for an infraction will:

- Reflect the seriousness of the incident.
- Take into account previous issues.
- Recognize each student's age and stage of development.