

# DON CHRISTIAN ELEMENTARY CODE OF CONDUCT

## A school code of conduct exists for three reasons:

- the safety and health of all members of our learning community and their property
- to promote a school and classroom environment which maximizes learning opportunities for all students
- to effectively deal with crisis situations

At Don Christian Elementary we work together to create a Caring, Accountable, Trustworthy and Safe learning environment.

**We care for and respect others.**

**We care for and respect ourselves.**

**We care for and respect the environment.**

## Members of the Don Christian community and visitors are expected to:

- Contribute positively to the classroom and school community
- Solve problems in peaceful ways
- Value diversity and defend human rights
- Exercise our democratic rights and responsibilities
- Follow the C.A.T.S. Behaviour Expectations Rubric

## Don Christian aims to be free from acts of:

- Verbal, physical or sexual abuse
- Bullying, cyber bullying, harassment and marginalization
- Disrespectful speech, profanity and offensive messages
- Violence in any form
- Discrimination, including sexual orientation and ethnicity
- Retribution against any person who has reported a breach of the Code of Conduct

The above behaviours in our Code of Conduct are **examples and not an inclusive list**.

## Don Christian does not tolerate:

- Theft or damage to property
- Cigarettes, intoxicating or banned substances
- Weapons or explosives, including firecrackers, fire lighters, sharp objects and replica weapons
- Intruders or trespassers

## Personal Digital Device use Policy

**Personal Digital Devices** are defined as any personal electronic device that can be used to communicate or to access the internet, such as a cell phone, tablet, laptop, or smartwatch. These devices are important tools which can be used to enhance learning and prepare children for the world in which they will work and live. Personal digital devices provide support for children who rely on these tools to access learning through services such as translation, adaptations for Individual Education Plans, medical support, health needs, or to provide equity of access to

resources. The classroom teacher is responsible for the learning environment in the classroom, for guiding children to use personal digital devices appropriately, and for determining when personal digital devices should be used.

The safe and responsible use of personal digital devices is expected by all Surrey School District students, employees, volunteers, parents, guardians, and community members who are on school district property or interacting with students or staff. This includes the following:

- Those using personal digital devices need to abide by the school code of conduct as well as all Provincial and Federal laws and the British Columbia Human Rights Code. This includes not using personal digital devices to engage or participate in bullying or harassment, discrimination, or defamation of character.
- At both elementary and secondary schools, personal digital devices can be used during class time to enhance learning at the direction of the classroom teacher. These devices should be used in a way that is respectful of other's learning and does not distract others in terms of light, sound, or by other means.
- At elementary schools, it is expected that personal digital devices are to be put away during non-class time such as recess and lunch. Exceptions to this are for students who need digital devices for medical or health reasons, translation, accessibility, or other student-specific reasons.
- Personal Digital Devices should not be used during lock down procedures or drills. The use of personal digital devices during this time may impact the emergency safety response.
- Surrey School District staff and students should not be recorded, visually or audibly, for any reason without their prior consent.
- The Surrey School District is not responsible for lost, missing, or damaged personal digital devices that students choose to bring to school.

Misuse of technology may be subject to discipline (including but not limited to confiscation).

**Students are expected to report incidents relating to any of the above.**

Expectations for behaviour rise as students mature through successive grades. Consequences take into account the student's age, maturity, and diverse needs, severity, and frequency of actions, and whenever possible and appropriate, focus on being restorative rather than punitive.

**Inappropriate behavior typically has the following consequences:**

- Review of expectations and a timeout
- Review of expectations, written assignment and/or loss of privileges
- Parents are informed
- Meeting with the parents
- Short-term (in school or at home) suspension up to 5 days
- Long-term suspension (over 5 days) or referral to District programs
- Consultation with police and/or fire department
- Expulsion

Don Christian views parents/guardians and community members as valued partners and commits to regular, open communication regarding all areas of student conduct and development. When students engage in a serious breach of our code of conduct, our response will always include communication with the parent and may also include communication with district student services staff, the parents of affected students as deemed necessary, and police and/or other agencies as deemed necessary by law.