

LA Matheson Secondary School Code of Conduct

The overall focus of the Code of Conduct is developing positive relationships among all members of the LA Matheson community. Everyone at LAM should feel safe, cared about and accepted for who they are so we can thrive as individuals and as a community. This code applies to staff and students while at school, at any school-sponsored function or where engaging in an activity (including online) will have an impact on a safe, caring and orderly school environment. This is a living document created by LA Matheson staff and students. We expect this document to evolve through continued input from the LAM community.

At LA Matheson we expect

- inclusivity and respect for diversity
- kindness, empathy, and accountability
- regular attendance and punctuality
- respect for classroom and school rules
- responsible use of devices
- respect for school and community property
- non-violent conflict resolution
- all visitors to sign in at the office

At LA Matheson we do not accept

- violence including fighting, intimidation, bullying, sexual harassment, and verbal abuse (includes online)
- encouraging, watching, and recording, acts of violence
- retribution against members of the school community who have reported code of conduct violations
- all forms of discrimination including racism, sexism, ableism, homophobia, transphobia, classism, and ageism
- theft, vandalism, and littering
- substances including drugs and alcohol
- vapes and cigarettes weapons, replica weapons, and explosives including fireworks
- plagiarism and cheating
- promotion or depiction of images, language or content related to drugs, alcohol, sex, violence, and racism or other forms of discrimination

Violations of the Code of Conduct

Follow up to violations by staff and students will be progressive and dependent on the incident, age, maturity and any special needs/circumstances. In each case we will aim to:

1. Ensure physical and emotional safety of everyone in our school community
2. Treat everyone with respect and dignity
3. Nurture healthy relationships
4. Listen fully to all involved
5. Seek out root causes and create lasting solutions
6. Repair harm and transform conflict
7. Facilitate personal growth

Attendance

Regular school attendance is a major factor contributing to student success in school. It is always the responsibility of the student to complete any class work missed.

- Parents of students who are absent should call the school by 9:30 a.m. on the day of the absence. The school will not call you until the end of the day if your child is absent.
- Unexcused absences are not acceptable.
- Planned absences longer than five school days require completion of an "Extended Absence Form" in advance, which is available at the office.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is presenting someone else's work or ideas as your own. This includes copying other's work, cutting and pasting from websites and quoting or paraphrasing from other's work without acknowledgment. Plagiarism is the theft of ideas, fundamentally dishonest and it erodes trust..

Use of Personal Devices

Using a device at LAM is a privilege. Cell phones and other devices should not be visible or used in class unless students are given permission from their teachers. Cell phones should not be used for any inappropriate activities including cyberbullying, sexting, and cheating