

Sadowne Elementary School

Code of Conduct 2020-2021

The Sadowne Code of Conduct applies to all students attending Sadowne Elementary School. The Code of Conduct is in effect at all times and takes into account actions that are taken both on and off school property. This includes behaviour on field trips and at any school-sponsored event. It also takes into account actions that are taken during non-school hours and actions that have a negative effect on others, even if the action occurs off school property (e.g. Cyber-bullying, etc.).

Sadowne Elementary School's Code of Conduct reflects our school philosophy where we believe that the majority of students behave responsibly most of the time. Some students, however, may make poor choices in their judgement of what is acceptable behaviour. The school Code of Conduct is designed to teach students that there are expectations for appropriate behaviour at school and to help them recognize behaviours that are unacceptable.

At Sadowne Elementary School we believe that in order to maintain a safe and caring environment where students have rights and responsibilities which are outlined as follows:

Rights

- I have a **right** to learn in my classroom.
- I have a **right** to hear and be heard.
- I have a **right** to be respected in this classroom.
- I have a **right** to be safe in this classroom.
- I have a **right** to privacy and to my own personal space.

Responsibilities

- It is my **responsibility** to listen to instructions, work quietly at my desk, and to raise my hand if I have a question or concern or need to leave.
- It is my **responsibility** not to talk, shout or make loud noises when others are speaking.
- It is my **responsibility** not to tease or bug other people, or to hurt their feelings.
- It is my **responsibility** not to threaten, kick, punch or physically harm anyone else.
- It is my **responsibility** to respect the personal property of others and to accept their right to privacy.

Conduct Expectations

The staff at Sandowne Elementary believes that students wish to be successful learners and positive young citizens. In order to facilitate positive student behaviour, Sandowne Elementary has developed routines to reinforce acceptable behaviours. These routines include:

- Teaching the behaviour expectations to all students at the beginning of the year and continuing to review these expected behaviours throughout the year
- Signage in key areas that highlight expected behaviours
- The use of the strategies that teach our behavioural expectations
- Classrooms expectations which are developed by teachers and students

Acceptable conduct:

This refers to how students are expected to conduct themselves at school, while going to and from school, and while attending any school function or activity at any location.

- Respecting self, others and the school
- Demonstrating respect and tolerance toward others
- Complying with the reasonable directives of a teacher, vice-principal, principal or other school district employees
- Helping to make the school a safe, caring and orderly place
- Informing a "tellable" adult, in a timely manner (in advance, if possible) of incidents of bullying, harassment or intimidation
- Engaging in purposeful learning activities and working diligently on school work without disrupting the work of others
- Acting in a manner that brings credit to the school
- Complying with the Tobacco Control Act prohibiting tobacco use on school property

Unacceptable Conduct:

These behaviours are examples only and are not an all-inclusive list:

- Behaviours that:
 - Interfere with the learning of others including their emotional well-being
 - Interfere with an orderly environment
 - Create unsafe conditions
- Acts of:
 - Bullying (including cyber bullying), harassment or intimidation
 - Physical violence
 - Retribution against a person who has reported incidents
 - Discrimination as set out in the BC Human Rights Code*
- Acts that violate federal, provincial or local laws, such as:
 - Possession, use or distribution of illegal or restricted substances
 - Possession or use of weapons
 - Theft of or damage to property

Members of the school community will be held accountable for actions that contravene the

Human Rights Code which states that these grounds include, but are not limited to:

- race/ancestry/place of origin/colour
- religion
- sex/sexual orientation
- sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression
- family status/marital status
- physical/mental disability
- age

Rising Expectations:

At Sandowne Elementary School, as children become older, more mature and move through the successive grades we expect:

- Increasing personal responsibility and self-discipline
- Increasing consequences for inappropriate behaviour

Consequences:

The severity and frequency of unacceptable conduct as well as the age and maturity of students is considered in determining appropriate disciplinary action. For example:

- Responses to unacceptable conduct are pre-planned, consistent and fair
- Disciplinary action, wherever possible, is preventative and restorative, rather than merely punitive
- Students, as often as possible, are encouraged to participate in the development of meaningful consequences for violations of the established code of conduct
- In cases where a student with special needs is incapable of complying with the Code of Conduct, the student's IEP will outline expectations and realistic consequences

Notification:

Our school personnel will advise other parties of serious breaches (as determined by the school administration) of the code of conduct. For example:

- Parents of student offender(s) – in every instance
- Parents of student victim(s) – in every instance
- School district officials – as deemed appropriate by the principal
- Police and/or other agencies – as required by law all parents – when deemed to be important to reassure members of the school community that school officials are aware of a serious situation or incident and are taking appropriate action to address it

Provincial Standards:

In accordance with the Provincial Standards for Codes of Conduct:

1. Discrimination against any person set out in the BC Human Rights Code in terms of discriminatory publication in accommodation, service and facility in the Sandowne Elementary School environment is forbidden.
2. The main purpose of the Sandowne Code of Conduct is to maintain a safe, caring and

orderly school environment.

3. Bullying, (including cyberbullying) the repeated and deliberate verbal or physical harassment by an individual or group, is not acceptable while at school, at a school-related activity or in other circumstances where engaging in the activity will have an impact on the school environment.
4. The consequences of unacceptable behaviour must take into account the student's age, maturity, and special needs, if any.
5. Whenever possible, and appropriate, the Sandowne Code of Conduct focuses on consequences that are restorative in nature rather than punitive.
6. Special considerations may apply to students with special needs if these students are unable to comply with the Code of Conduct due to having a disability of an intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional or behavioural nature.
7. Sandowne Elementary School will take all reasonable steps to prevent retaliation by a person against a student who has made a complaint of a breach of a code of conduct.

The Code of Conduct is reviewed annually by the Parent Advisory Committee, School Planning Council and the staff. Areas needing reinforcement are addressed in announcements and assemblies.

Staff and families with students new to the school will be made aware of the current code of conduct early each September and on an ongoing basis for new enrolments during the school year.