

# **Pender Island School Code of Conduct**

(reviewed and revised May, 2009)

**Our mission is to encourage learners to  
develop a love of learning and their full potentials  
as confident, compassionate and responsible members of society.**

Our School Code of Conduct is in support of our mission. Its purpose is to

- promote student conduct that helps to establish, maintain and respect a safe, orderly and healthy learning environment
- promote student conduct that helps to establish, maintain and respect appropriate balances among individual and collective freedoms, rights, and responsibilities
- clarify and publish expectations for student behaviour while at school, on the school bus or water taxi, and while participating in school functions and activities at any location

Because we are a K -12 school, our Code of Conduct involves rising expectations. We believe that

- staff and other adults in the building (including visitors) should model the acceptable behaviours that we expect of our students
- behavioural expectations must be actively and consistently taught and promoted
- the Code of Conduct should be clearly communicated to students of different ages and developmental levels, using language that they will understand
- as students get older, they will demonstrate increasing personal and social responsibility, and self-discipline
- as students get older they should be subject to increasing consequences for inappropriate behaviour, and be given increasing privileges when their behavior meets or exceeds expectations.

## **Acceptable student behaviour**

- Is kind and respects Self, Others, and the School; it ensures that everyone feels welcome, valued and free of the fear of harm
- Respects human diversity and avoids discriminatory words and actions
- Helps to make the school, the school bus and water taxi, and places where school functions happen, safe, caring and orderly places
- Demonstrates a commitment to learning
- Ensures that responsible adults can be told when students are bullied, harassed, intimidated, or discriminated against, so that those students can be helped
- Brings credit to the school

## **Unacceptable Student behaviour**

- Is unkind and shows a lack of respect for Self, Others, and the School; it makes people feel unwelcome, unwanted, or unsafe.
- Creates unsafe, uncaring and unhealthy conditions

- Interferes with learning
- Involves, bullying, harassment, intimidation and discrimination
- Involves illegal acts

### **Consequences for Unacceptable Student Behaviour**

We will ensure that:

- to the greatest extent possible, our approach to school discipline is preventative and restorative, rather than punitive
- our approach takes into account the age, maturity, and special needs of students
- students unable to comply with expectations because of a disability of an intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional or behavioral nature, are treated fairly and with dignity and that they experience consequences that reflect the school's recognition and understanding of this fact
- responses to inappropriate behaviour are thoughtful, respectful and fair (not hasty); and that they are explained and understood
- to the extent that it is reasonable, and such that personal dignity is not compromised, students will experience the natural consequences of their inappropriate actions.
- wherever possible, students participate in decisions regarding appropriate, meaningful consequences for violations of the Code of Conduct

### **Notification of Breaches:**

Notification of violations of the Code of Conduct will be as follows:

- School staff members on an "as needs to know" basis
- Some or all parents in situations where serious situations have compromised the learning environment, and re-assurance is needed.
- Parents of offenders and/or victims in every instance involving direct, intentional harm to others or willful damage to property
- School District officials, as required by policy
- Police and other agencies as required by law

### **Retaliation Prevention:**

The school will take all reasonable steps to prevent retaliation against students who inform staff of another student(s) breach of the Code of Conduct

### **Publication:**

The Code of Conduct will be reviewed by classroom teachers and students during the first two days of school and as needed thereafter; included in the Parent Handbook distributed in early September, and posted in the school lobby and on the school's webpage.