



QUALICUM BEACH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CODE OF CONDUCT

It is the responsibility of all members of the Qualicum Beach Elementary School community to develop and maintain a **safe** and **respectful** environment that protects the rights of the school community. We strive to create an atmosphere in our school community where we all can trust each other, demonstrate friendliness and show respect to self, one another and the school property.

School and Playground Expectations

Students are expected to behave in a **Safe and Respectful** manner in the school and on the playground. Students are encouraged to take personal responsibility and use an appropriate problem-solving strategy such as....

Walk away - **Ignore** - **Tell** them to stop - **Seek** an adult

Dress Code

Clothing and footwear need to be appropriate for school, which is our working and learning environment. We ask students not to wear clothing with:

- offensive, violent, suggestive or hateful words or pictures.
- rude sayings or slogans.
- pictures or sayings involving alcohol, drugs or tobacco.

These guidelines apply for all school functions and events. We would appreciate your cooperation, support and understanding of these guidelines.

Technology

Students are to refrain from inappropriate use of computers, cellular phones, cameras and/or other communication/wireless devices. Electronic devices should be turned off and kept in your locker or backpack during class time unless students have been given permission to use it for educational purposes. Videos and pictures can only be taken with the consent of the teacher and students. Personal devices should not be used at recess, lunch or between classes.

Damage to Property

A student who willfully damages school property or the personal belongings of another member of the community will be required to pay for repairs and/or replacement.

Leaving the Grounds

All students must stay within school boundaries from arrival to dismissal. ***Parents may take their child off school grounds; however, students must be signed in and out of the office.***

Discipline and Consequences

Discipline and consequences are used to teach and guide students to demonstrate appropriate behaviour and conduct. Positive discipline provides the opportunity to learn and grow and helps children understand and be responsible for their actions empowering them to resolve problems (practice restorative justice when possible). Discipline and consequences are incremental, progressing from mild to severe. When students contravene the Code of Conduct, interfere with the rights of others, or with the learning environment, they will be subject to consequences that balance with the gravity of the offence. Consequences are determined by the individual situation and no two incidents are alike. Variables such as the age of the child, whether it is a repeat offence or the seriousness of the event all influence the potential consequence. One or combinations of consequences may be employed. Special considerations may apply to students with diverse abilities if those students are unable to comply due to an intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional or behavioral disability.

While discipline is progressive there are instances such as violence toward self or others, outright defiance and non-compliance or consistently disrupting the learning environment of others where a severe consequence is the initial consequence. Further, in relevant circumstances students may be subject to consequences prescribed in specific School Board Policies.

Possible Consequences for Inappropriate Behaviour

- Teacher conference with student
- Principal/VP conference with student
- Parent contact/involvement
- Removal from the classroom
- Recess or lunch hour detention
- Behaviour contract
- Reduced Day
- Counselling
- Loss of privileges
- Time out
- Restitution
- Restorative justice
- In-school suspension
- Out-of-school suspension

Guiding Principles for this Code of Conduct

Members of our school community support the values expressed in the BC Human Rights Code. respecting the rights of all individuals in accordance with the law—prohibiting discrimination based on race, color, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identify / expression, or age.

1. Prevention of Retaliation – All reasonable steps will be taken to prevent retaliation against a student who makes a complaint of a breach of a code of conduct.
2. BC Human Rights – Our school supports the values expressed in the BC Human Rights Code respecting the rights of all individuals in accordance with the law, prohibiting discrimination based on race, color, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identify / expression, or age.
3. Special Consideration - In application of our school's code of conduct, special consideration may apply to students with Special Needs if those students are unable to comply due to having a disability of an intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional or behavioural nature.

This document has been written with reference to (a) Provincial Standards for Codes of Conduct Order [Authority: School Act, sections 85(1.1) 168(2) (s.1)], to (b) Safe, Caring and Orderly Schools, A Guide (2004), and to (c) Developing and Reviewing Codes of Conduct: A Companion to (a) and (b) above.

DEFINITIONS:

Bullying occurs when one or more individuals target another with the purpose to harass or inflict verbal, physical, or emotional abuse. Bullying is different from ordinary conflict or quarreling. When bullying occurs, there exists a power imbalance:

- a) Intimidation occurs when one or more individuals target another with the intent of causing fear and apprehension through verbal and/or non-verbal threats.
- b) Discrimination occurs, for the purpose of this policy, when an individual is subjected to insults, ridicule, or alienation for reasons of: race (i.e. racism), religion, ethnic background, appearance, sexual orientation, disability, or gender.
- c) Harassment occurs when one or more individual's verbal and/or non-verbal (e.g. gestures) behaviour towards others is, and is intended to be: insulting, humiliating, malicious, degrading or otherwise offensive.

School staff may have the responsibility to advise other parties/agencies of serious breaches of the code of conduct (i.e. parents, school district officials, RCMP, MCFD).