



Student Code of Conduct

Purpose

At Mountain Elementary we want all children to feel safe and secure, both physically, and emotionally. Through shared responsibility involving home, school and community, we strive to provide a safe, positive and orderly environment where all students can learn. Our code of conduct takes into account the rights freedoms and responsibilities of both individuals and the school community and clarified expectations for acceptable and unacceptable behavior.

All students are responsible for respecting the rights and dignity of others in learning environments free from discrimination as set out in the B.C. Human Rights Code.

Conduct Expectations

Our Code of Conduct at Mountain is designed to teach children to make choices which show that they:

- Care about themselves and others
- Care about their environment
- Do their best to participate and learn
- Demonstrate virtues such as kindness, respect, and responsibility along with others

Acceptable conduct

- Respect self and others by being honest, forthright and kind
- Keep their hands and feet to themselves
- Respect the property of others and the school
- Help make the school a safe, caring and orderly place
- Inform an adult of any unsafe behaviour including bullying and intimidation
- Do their best to participate and learn
- Act in a way that brings credit to their family and Mountain Elementary

Unacceptable Conduct

Unacceptable conduct is behaviour that:

- Interferes with the learning of others
- Interferes with an orderly environment
- Creates unsafe conditions

The following acts are considered unacceptable:

- Bullying, harassment or intimidation
- Physical violence
- Retribution against a person who has reported something to an adult
- Illegal acts, such as having an illegal or restricted substance
- Stealing or damaging property

Consequences

The severity and frequency, age and maturity of the student are taken into consideration when unacceptable conduct occurs. Special consideration may apply to students with special needs who are unable to comply with widely held expectations. Response to unacceptable conduct are consistent and fair.

Disciplinary action, whenever possible, is preventative and restorative, rather than merely punitive. Students will be encouraged to participate in the development of meaningful consequences and ways to make it right.

Minor offences will be handled 'on the spot' by any staff member. Students will be made aware of how their actions were inappropriate and discuss how a better choice could have been made. We understand that everyone makes mistakes. When mistakes are made, we need to think about how to make them better so that they don't continue to happen.

Escalating consequences for repeated behaviours include:

- A warning
- A natural consequence and/or a "thinking paper"
- Time out/lost privileges
- Referral to school-based team or administration
- Referral to district personnel

Communication

School staff have a responsibility to inform others of a serious breach of conduct. For example:

- Parents of students who break the rules
- Parents of the student victim
- School district officials as required by board policy
- Police and other agencies as required by law
- All parents in a situation deemed by the principal to be important to reassure members of the school community that school officials are aware of a serious situation and are taking appropriate action to address it

Student Use of Personal Digital Devices in Schools (AP 345)

The Board believes in promoting on-line safety and a focused learning environment. To this end, students are expected to:

- Refrain from inappropriate computer usage and/or multi-media devices in accordance with Board policies.
- Refrain from using personal digital devices during the instructional day (including recess and lunch) or during any school sponsored activity such as an assembly or presentation by a guest speaker unless given the express permission of the school administrator/teacher.

*A personal digital device is any personal device that can be used to communicate or to access the internet, such as a cell phone or tablet.