

ERMA STEPHENSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

CODE OF CONDUCT

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

At Erma Stephenson Elementary School, we believe that all children have the right to learn in a safe and caring environment. Our expectations are that students will maintain an attitude that is cooperative, courteous, and respectful. This is reinforced by our school-wide focus on skills for social and emotional learning. Students are developing skills for self-regulation, problem solving, and decision making appropriate to their age for healthy learning and living.

Respect for Learning - caring about your own learning and the learning of others.

Some examples include:

- *allow others to work without distractions
- *have materials, be prepared; take responsibility for your learning
- *make good, safe choices
- *be on time and ready to work
- *be a good listener

Respect for Others - being considerate of others' personal feelings and property, treat others the way you would like to be treated.

Some examples include:

- *be polite and use your manners
- *treat others with respect, be kind (to peers and adults)
- *cooperate and share
- *be honest and tell the truth
- *keeps hands and feet to self

Respect for Ourselves - caring about the type of person you want to be.

Some examples include:

- *be on task
- *use manners, polite language
- *clean up after yourself
- *have a positive attitude
- *use time wisely

Respect for our School - caring about your school and your environment

Some examples include:

- *take good care of materials and equipment/personal belongings
- *keeps hands off walls and displays
- *play in designated areas
- *use garbage cans, recycle

BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS

Acceptable and unacceptable behavior while at school, attending school related activities (both on and off school grounds) or in any other circumstances where engaging in the activity will have an impact on the school environment. There will be rising expectations of behaviour as students mature.

It is important to note that the acceptable and unacceptable behaviours that follow are not all-inclusive lists.

Acceptable Behaviour:

THE ERMA STEPHENSON CODE OF CONDUCT includes:

- Respect for LEARNING
- Respect for OURSELVES
- Respect OTHERS
- Respect for our SCHOOL

Unacceptable Behaviour:

Unacceptable behaviour can consist of, but is not limited to:

- lack of respect for others
- fighting, play-fighting
- stealing
- violence of any form
- vandalism
- refusal to comply or rudeness
- teasing/bullying/cyber bullying
- intimidation, making threats
- swearing or using obscene gestures
- being out of bounds
- snowballing or face washing
- destruction of school or personal property

SAFE & CARING SCHOOLS:

ARE FREE FROM ACTS OF:

- Bullying (including cyber-bullying)
- Harassment, threat, intimidation and marginalization
- Violence in any form
- Abuse in any form (verbal, physical, sexual)
- Intolerance and discrimination in any form, i.e. based on an individual or group's race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, political belief, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, or age.
- Retribution against a person who has reported incidents

DO NOT TOLERATE THE PRESENCE OF:

- Intoxicating or banned substances (including alcohol, cigarettes and drugs)
- Theft and vandalism (or damage to personal property)
- Weapons or replica (toy) weapons (including laser pointers); explosives (including fireworks) and pepper or other obnoxious sprays.
- Intruders or trespassers (all visitors must first report to the office)
- Inappropriate clothing or unacceptable slogans imprinted on clothing

MISUSE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES/COMPUTERS:

- School computers and other electronic devices are only to be used for school/education related activities. They are not permitted for social networking, gaming, illegal, obscene or inappropriate purposes. Inappropriate use includes, but is not limited to, attempts to vandalize, gain unauthorized access to data or another person's account or resources, and sharing of data without personal or parental consent as appropriate.
- Recording of visual images is not permissible at school unless permission has been received by the classroom teacher with respect to a classroom project.
- Students are to be aware that they may be subject to discipline (or, if applicable, confiscation of personal property) for misuse of any technology, if it negatively impacts the school environment.
- Misuse of district technology services will lead to suspension of user privileges and possible disciplinary or legal action.

CONSEQUENCES

Consequences will take into account the age, maturity and special needs (e.g. intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional or behavioural challenges), severity and frequency of actions. Consequences will be progressive and will focus on being restorative rather than punitive in nature. Depending upon these and other factors, one or more of the following actions may be taken:

- Verbal warning
- Problem solving discussion
- Time-out
- Recess/Lunch restriction
- Parent contact/meeting
- In-school suspension
- Out of school suspension
- Problem Solving sheet
- School/Community service
- Referral for Counselling or behaviour support

NOTIFICATION:

School administration will advise parties as follows:

- Parent/guardian of student exhibiting major behavior problem - every instance.
- Parent/guardian of student on the receiving end of an incident - every instance.
- Assistant Superintendent, Safe Schools Department and/or other District Staff – as needed
- Ministerial agencies and/or School Liaison Officer (RCMP) – as needed

OTHER

SCHOOL DRESS CODE

The dress code is developed through discussions with staff and the Parent Advisory Council and applies to both students and staff. We have found it helpful to provide students with guidelines for dressing appropriately at school. We believe that school should be treated as “their place of business”.

Students should NOT wear the following:

- t-shirts with negative or inappropriate symbols, pictures or slogans
- short shorts or skirts (length to be below finger tips when hands by sides)
- short tops
- low waist pants
- spaghetti straps
- visible undergarments

In addition, the following items should NOT be worn inside the school building:

- hats, caps or visors
- hood on hoodie
- roller shoes/rollerblades

Please also ensure that your children are dressed appropriately for daily physical activity/P.E. (shorts, t-shirts, running shoes) and are prepared and dressed for inclement weather (hat, gloves, jackets, boots)

REFERENCES

This Elementary Code of Conduct has been structured to align with, and adhere to the standards outlined in: The School Act 85 (1.1); 168 (2) (s.1); Provincial Standards Ministerial Order 276/07 (m276/07), effective October 17, 2007.

- BC Human Rights Code, as depicted in Surrey Schools Anti-Discrimination and Human Rights Policy No.10900; and Regulation No. 10900.1
- BC Ministry of Education: Safe, Caring and Orderly Schools, A Guide (November 2008) and Developing and Reviewing Code of Conduct: A Companion (August 2007), both found at <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sco/>
- Surrey Schools – Safe and Caring School Handbook – policies, procedures and guidelines for schools found on <http://www.surreyschools.ca>
- Ministerial Order No.M 208: (a) a reference to each of the prohibited grounds of discrimination set out in section 7 (*discriminatory publication*) and section 8 (*discrimination in accommodation, service and facility*) of the *Human Rights Code*, RSBC 1996, c. 210;