

Wildflower School Code of Conduct

Wildflower School - Statement of Purpose

The purpose of our code of conduct is to establish and maintain safe, caring, and orderly environments for purposeful learning and student success. Our code is built around the school's vision of Wildflower School, which reflects the values of our school community.

The School Code of Conduct applies at school, during all school-organized or sponsored activities, on school buses, and any behaviour even if outside of school or school hours, (including online behaviour), that negatively impacts the safe, caring, or orderly environment of the school, and/or student learning.

Relationship to BC Human Rights Code

Wildflower School promotes 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, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex or sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression - in respect of discriminatory publication and discrimination in accommodation, service, and facility in the school environment.

Application of Code of Conduct - Conduct Expectations

Acceptable Behaviour

These expectations apply to behaviour at school, during school-organized or sponsored activities, and behaviour beyond these times (including on-line behaviour that negatively impacts the safe, caring or orderly environment of the school, and/or student learning).

Students will demonstrate:

Respect - Students are expected to show respect for self, environment, and others. They are expected to act in a responsible manner and be respectful of the rights of others at school and school activities wherever held.

Responsibility - Students are expected to gradually assume more responsibility for themselves, as individuals and members of society. They are expected to become more responsible for undertaking, organizing and completing their schoolwork and for contributing to and promoting a safe, caring, and orderly school environment.

Commitment - Students are expected to strive for personal excellence in all their school endeavors and comply with school expectations and rules for student work, attendance, behaviour, and deportment.

Attitude - Students are expected to participate willingly and diligently in their assigned work and to undertake school activities with a spirit of cooperation and fair play.

In addition, specifically at Wildflower School we have the following expectations:

Be Safe	Be an Active Learner
<p>Everyone is expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help to make the school a safe, caring and orderly place • Inform an adult, in a timely manner of incidents of bullying, harassment or intimidation <p>We do not permit:</p> <p>Illegal acts, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possession, use or distribution of illegal or restricted substances • Possession or use of weapons • Theft or damage to property <p>Acts of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bullying, cyber-bullying, harassment or intimidation • Physical violence • Revenge against a person who has reported incidents • Vandalism <p>Behaviours that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create unsafe conditions or make others feel unsafe 	<p>Everyone is expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be prepared to engage in learning activities • Take responsibility for their own learning • Have increasing personal responsibility and self-discipline as they move from grade to grade <p>We do not permit:</p> <p>Behaviours that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interfere with the learning of others • Interfere with the well-being of others • Interfere with an orderly environment <p>Acts of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Misuse of technology on and off the school site that has a bearing on the well-being of students, staff and the school's standing in the community • Using other students' computer log access codes • Unauthorized leaving of school ground
Be Kind	
<p>Everyone is expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect self, others, people's belongings, the school and its belongings 	

- Model positive behaviours in the school and community
- Use appropriate ways to communicate to others in this environment

We do not permit:

- The publication or use of, in any form, of a statement, notice, sign, symbol or emblem, that indicates discrimination against a person or group of persons or that is likely to expose a person or group of persons to hatred because of race, color, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or age, of that person or group of people
- Discrimination against a person or class of persons regarding any accommodation, service or facility customarily available to the public because of the race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation gender identity, age of that person or group of people.
- Images or words on sex, drugs, alcohol or discrimination on clothing or belongings

Unacceptable Conduct

Students shall not discriminate against others on the basis of Indigenous identity, race, religion, colour, ancestry, place of origin, marital status, family status, age, sex or sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, or physical or mental disability, or for any other reason set out in the Human Rights Code of British Columbia, nor shall a student publish or display anything that would indicate an intention to discriminate against another, or expose them to contempt or ridicule, on the basis of any such grounds. **Racism and discrimination will not be tolerated in our school.**

- Behaviours that interfere with the learning of others, interfere with an orderly environment, or create an unsafe environment.
- Bullying, cyberbullying, harassing, intimidating, threatening, retaliating, discriminating, or violence.
- Illegal acts, such as possession, use or distribution of illegal or restricted substances.
- Theft or damage to property.

Note: Behaviours (both acceptable and unacceptable) cited in the code of conduct are examples only and not an all-inclusive list.

Use of Personal Digital Data Devices

Students only use personal digital data devices (any device that can access the internet) for instructional purposes and digital literacy appropriate to the student's age and developmental stage while on school property and during hours of instruction, aligned to our school's expectations related to personal digital data devices:

- Students in Kindergarten to Grade 6 should not bring a personal digital device to school unless there is a specific identified need. If they do, the personal digital device must remain in their bags or be given to their teacher.

- Students in Grade 7 to 9 can bring a personal digital device to school, but it must be given to their teacher for safe keeping during the day.
- Any student unable to cooperate with these school-wide standards designed to support a positive learning environment will have their device stored safely in the office for them to retrieve at the end of the day. If repeated contraventions occur, parents or guardians may be asked to come to the school to retrieve the device.

Access to the Internet will consider equity and hardship to foster connection with peers and access to opportunities for personal achievement.

The use of personal digital devices for students with disabilities or diverse abilities will be outlined in students' Individual Education Plans, such as the use of assistive technology on personal digital devices at school to support student accessibility, communication, and autonomy and to facilitate participation and promote accessibility. This includes supporting the use of personal digital devices that monitor and support medical necessities.

District Code of Conduct

The School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake) (SD8) Code of Conduct has been established to maintain a safe, caring, and orderly learning environment.

SD8 believes in the interactive roles required to achieve safe and caring schools and believes that responsibility for safe and caring schools is shared among many partners. It is the shared responsibility of students, staff, parents/guardians, and the broader community (school community), to demonstrate positive conduct while attending any school or District related activity, at any location.

All members of the school community are expected to comply with the purpose and spirit of the BC Human Rights Code, including not engaging in discriminatory conduct on the basis of race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or age.

All members of the school community have an obligation to:

- Support learning;
- Promote safety;
- Respect self, environment, and others; and,
- Model courtesy, compassion, and respect.

All members of the school community must refrain from engaging in any in-person or digital communication or behavior that is:

- Interfering with the learning and working of others.

- Bullying, cyberbullying, harassing, intimidating, threatening, retaliating, discriminating, or violent.
- Unsafe or illegal, including the possession, use or distribution of illegal or restricted substances, or the possession of weapons or replicas.

The use of personal digital devices will be restricted at schools to promote learning and engagement. Students' use of any personal digital data devices (any personal electronic device that can be used to communicate or to access the internet, such as a cell phone or a tablet) will be used for instructional purposes and digital literacy appropriate to the student's age and developmental stage while on school property and during hours of instruction. The use of personal digital data devices by students will support accessibility and accommodation needs, medical and health needs, and equity to support learning outcomes.

The District considers the conduct of any member of the school community that adversely affects the school environment to be a breach of the District Code of Conduct and to warrant appropriate forms of response or intervention. If the safety or educational program of others is compromised, or if there is an ongoing failure to meet the expectations of the Code of Conduct, a range of consequences may follow. Whenever possible, incidents will be resolved by discussion, mediation, and restitution.

SD8 further believes that the effective management of student discipline, congruent with our philosophy, is a necessity to establish safe and caring environments that foster learning, school connectedness and healthy living. SD8 believes that schools are places where students are free from harm and places for students to form strong relationships. Prevention and intervention strategies applied at the school level and supported at the District level are the foundations of a safe and caring school in which students learn to solve problems in peaceful ways, to value diversity and to support human rights.

Retaliation Prevention

All reasonable steps will be taken to prevent retaliation against a student who has made a complaint of a breach of a code of conduct.

Breaches of the Code of Conduct - Consequences

Student discipline takes place in the context of informed decision-making.

Administrators will consider many factors including the age and maturity of the student, social capacity, learning needs and prior related events when determining consequences for actions that violate the Code of Conduct. Breaches of the Code of Conduct include but are not limited to disrespectful or defiant behaviour towards staff, academic dishonesty, theft, inappropriate use of technology and social media, and bullying of other students.

Disciplinary action, wherever possible, is restorative rather than merely punitive. The school will treat seriously any behaviour that discriminates based on Indigenous identity, race, religion, colour, ancestry, place of origin, marital status, family status, age, sex or sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, or physical or mental disability.

Repetitive or severe unacceptable behaviour may result in increased severity of subsequent disciplinary action. The age and maturity of students are considered when determining appropriate consequences.

Special considerations may apply to students with special/diverse needs if these students are unable to comply with a code of conduct due to having a disability/diversity of an intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional, or behavioural nature.

Consequences are always thoughtful, fair and consistent; learning focused to prevent a reoccurrence of the offense and restorative.

The range of disciplinary actions that applies to breaches of the Code of Conduct may include but are not limited to the following:

- School or community service;
- Restorative justice or formal apology;
- In-school suspension or school suspension, and;
- Referral to a specialized service or program.

Where appropriate, consequences will involve the student in determining a corrective plan of action. Administrators consult and work closely with parents throughout the process in determining ways to support students who have breached the Code of Conduct.

In some cases, violation of school district policies may also be a violation of the Criminal Code of Canada and result in a police investigation.

Notifications for breaches of the Code of Conduct may involve communication with:

- Parents/guardians of the student in breach of the Code of Conduct;
- Parents/guardians of the victim(s) where appropriate;
- School staff and district personnel where appropriate;
- Police and/or other agencies, as required by law, and;
- School community, when deemed necessary, to reassure members that the school officials are taking appropriate action.

The following [administrative procedures](#) apply:

- **[AP 3309 - Student Suspension](#)**
- **[AP 3310 - Illegal Use of Drugs and Alcohol](#)**
- **[AP 3311 - Vandalism](#)**
- **[AP 3312 - Possession of Weapons or Explosives](#)**

- **AP 3401 - Student Assessment and Promotion**

What Should I Do If...?

If you have been affected by, or know of others who have been affected by, bullying, alcohol, drugs, harassment, violence, and/or weapons, it is very important that you talk to a parent/guardian, school administrator, teacher, counsellor, or make an ERASE report so that others can help solve the problem. Disclosed information about other students is considered confidential.

Date Reviewed: June 2024