

Code of Conduct

LEARNER CODE OF CONDUCT:

The purpose of our Code of Conduct is to set clear expectations for student behaviour and to help ensure a safe, caring, and orderly learning environment for all. At Peachland Elementary, we value equity, encourage leadership, embrace inclusion, and strive to support the diverse needs of our learners. This Code of Conduct applies at school, on the way to and from school (including while riding the bus), and during any school or PAC-sponsored activity or event. We recognize that each student is unique, and together we all contribute to the well-being and success of our PLE community.

BC HUMAN RIGHTS CODE

Peachland Elementary School promotes the values expressed in the BC Human Rights Code respecting the rights of all individuals in accordance with the law. All participants in school business, activities, or events shall conduct themselves in a manner that does not contravene the BC Human Rights Code and its basic principles of respect and fairness. No person shall discriminate against another based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, physical and mental disability, sex or sexual orientation within the school environment and within the school system and its related function through publication, or in accommodation, service or facility. The school will treat seriously any behavior that contravenes the grounds set out in the BC Human Rights Code.

WHO DOES THE CODE OF CONDUCT APPLY TO?

In reference to **Board Policies 455 and 455R**, the purpose of the Code of Conduct is to maintain a safe, caring, and orderly environment for learners and their learning. The Code of Conduct applies to any learner:

1. on school property
2. in attendance at school and/or school-sponsored activity
3. whose behavior, at any time or place, including to and from school as well as online, has a negative impact on the school environment and/or learning

VIOLATIONS OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT

We recognize that most members of our school community conduct themselves in a positive and respectful manner. Violations of the Code of Conduct will occur, and when these infrequent violations occur, parents/guardians will be contacted. Minor violations may be addressed differently, including meetings with learners, school staff, and parents/guardians.

RIGHTS	RESPONSIBILITIES
Learners have the right to learn	Learners have the responsibility to actively participate and be responsible learners: *attend class consistently *come prepared for class and ready to learn *complete learning tasks *seek help if needed *focus on learning and not distracting others *walk quietly in the hallway between classes
Learners have the right to be respected	Learners have the responsibility to respect others (not to bully, tease, pick on or harass others): *be polite and listen actively to others *be kind and inclusive *accept and respect differences *be honest and trustworthy *promptly report incidences of bullying, harassment or intimidation to a trusting adult
Learners have the right to be safe	Students have the responsibly to act in a safe manner and to protect the safety of others *move within the building in a calm and careful manner *stay in designated areas *participate and play safely *report dangerous situations to staff
Learners have the right to privacy and security of personal space	Learners have the responsibility to respect the property and privacy of other students, staff, and community members *get permission before touching other people's property *respect personal boundaries *ask before photographing/recording someone
Learners have the right to use learning tools, equipment and property	Leaners have the responsibility to use equipment and property in accordance with all applicable rules and with care and respect *ask before borrowing items *clean and return borrowed items *use equipment as it was intended *clean up after yourself *respect spaces, furniture and equipment

DRESS CODE

The way we dress can communicate the respect we show to others and to the school as a place for working and learning. We encourage students to dress in a manner that promotes a positive image of self and school. The purpose of the PLE dress code is to clarify what clothing is reasonable for learners to provide a positive school climate. Learners are asked to avoid dress styles which promote, imitate or celebrate violence, intimidation, racism, sexism, hatred towards others, gang association, sex or alcohol/drug use. If clothing is determined by staff to be inappropriate, learners may be asked to change. This expectation applies to all learners. Footwear must be worn at all times for health and safety reasons.

RESPONSIBLE STUDENT USE OF PERSONAL DIGITAL DEVICES, SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY, AND DISTRICT NETWORK SERVICES

The purpose of using network services and digital technologies while in educational settings is to engage in responsible educational activities. Therefore, school technologies, and district network services require students to abide by the school's Code of Conduct and procedures, as well as Central Okanagan Public Schools Policy 486: Student Use of Network Services and Digital Technologies.

Some examples of responsible use with district devices include the following:

- **Act responsibly** when accessing technology and district networks, including the Internet in their school.
- Use technological equipment and property according to all applicable rules and with **care and respect**.
- Engage in **appropriate use** as directed by school staff.
- Respect the **safety and privacy of self and others** and do not provide personal contact information about themselves or other students.
- Treat others with **respect and kindness** when using digital devices and network services.
- Respect **resource limits** of the network services and do not engage in activities that jeopardize the integrity, security or performance of the network.
- Understand the importance of **privacy and security** and take all reasonable precautions when accessing network services and digital technologies.

The use of School Technology and District Networks is a privilege, and usage may be revoked at any time for inappropriate conduct. Use of network services and digital technologies which violate the terms outlined in policy and/or the School's Code of Conduct may result in serious consequences including definite or indefinite suspensions and/or police intervention.

CELL PHONES AND DEVICES

Students are asked to leave personal electronic devices at home, as they will not be needed or allowed at school. If a student needs to bring a device (ex. cell phone), it will be kept in the backpack, with the teacher, or in the office. Students are NOT ALLOWED to use their own personal phones or devices while at school, this includes school property and the school bus.

Discipline Procedures

In the event of a violation of our Code of Conduct, the staff will endeavor to act consistently by:

- communicating with all individuals involved;
- determining all of the facts; and
- treating learners with fairness and respect.

School Staff recognize that each incident is unique and must be approached with respect to context. Behavior expectations increase with age and grade level. Consequences for violations of the code of conduct may vary from K-5. Whenever possible, the learner, with the assistance of the administrator, teacher, counselor, and/or parent/guardian, will be involved in solving the problem.

Where appropriate, special considerations may apply to learners with diverse needs who violate the Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct (including consequences) may be applied to the child in a manner that reflects their intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional or behavioural abilities.

BEHAVIOUR RESPONSE PLAN

Peachland Elementary is committed to a respectful problem-solving process with students with opportunities for students to grow in the skills necessary to play together and work through conflict. If consequences are necessary, they will be logical and fair, be restorative in nature, involve the student and respect their individual rights, abilities and maturity.

INCIDENTS OF INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR

Level 1: Mild Misbehaviour

Mild misbehaviour disrupts a positive and orderly school environment, Examples may include:

Examples of Mild Offences (not limited to)	Possible Consequences
• Disruption of learning • Inappropriate manners • Unsafe conduct • Minor vandalism • Teasing • Dishonesty • Defiance • Misuse of washroom • Inappropriate language, tone of voice • Inappropriate physical contact • Bringing inappropriate items to school (trading cards, electronics, cell phones)	○ Problem solving conversations will occur with the child/children involved, written problem solving process, loss of privilege, time-out, item taken away, parents contacted

Level 2: Moderate Misbehaviour

Moderate misbehaviour may threaten the learning or physical/emotional safety of others. Examples may include:

Examples of Moderate Offences (not limited to)	Possible Consequences
• Repeated mild behaviours • Cheating • Graffiti • Stealing • Bullying • Swearing at others • Unsafe/dangerous behaviour • Sexually explicit comments • Defiance to authority, non-compliance with staff • Misbehaviour during safety drills or field trips • Use or possession of unsafe items at school • Inappropriate use of technology/cell phone use	○ Meeting with the Principal ○ Parents contacted ○ Coaching/direct instruction of skills and appropriate behaviour ○ Loss of privileges ○ Extended time-out (loss of recess or lunch) ○ Item taken away and picked up by parent/caregiver ○ Restorative justice (compensation, paying for damages) ○ Work station at the office

Level 3: Serious or Major Misbehaviour

Serious misbehaviour may be dangerous or threatening for students and staff. Examples may include:

Examples of Major Offences (not limited to)	Possible Consequences
• Repeated moderate behaviours • Intentional fighting • Threats (verbal, electronic, written) • Harassment • Use of drugs/alcohol/vape • Blatant defiance • Physical violence • Repeated incidents of bullying • Damage to property • Fire lighting/misuse of fire equipment • Major theft/vandalism • Swearing at staff • Discrimination • Possession/use of weapons or toy replica	○ Meeting with the Principal and parents ○ In-school workplace at office ○ Suspension (in-school or at home) ○ 1-10 day definite suspension ○ Restorative justice (compensation/paying for damages) ○ Notification of other authorities An apology should be made to restore the relationship. Parents will be contacted. The principal has the right under the School Act to discharge discipline as necessary. This includes the right to suspend a student.

The PLE 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, effective October 17, 2007
- BC Human Rights Code, (SD 23 Policy 450 and Regulation No. 450 - Discrimination Toward and by Students)
- Central Okanagan School District Policy 455 and Regulation 455 – Discipline
- Central Okanagan School District Policy 486 - Student Use of Electronic and Social Media Communication
- BC Ministry of Education: Safe, Caring and Orderly Schools A Guide (Nov. 2008) and Developing and Reviewing Codes of Conduct: A Companion (Aug. 2007), both found at <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sco/>