

## **Vermilion Forks School's**

### **Code of Conduct**

#### **Purpose:**

At VFE, we believe that a safe and orderly environment provides the best backdrop for successful student learning and positive social interactions.

Vermilion Forks 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 – in respect of discriminatory publication and discrimination in accommodation, service and facility in the school environment.

Therefore, our code of conduct is based on the guiding principles of both individual and collective:

#### **Rights, Respect & Responsibility:**

**Rights** something that is due a person; what is good, just or lawful

**Respect** to treat everyone with dignity, care, consideration, inclusion and honor

**Responsibility** to accept ownership for the result of your personal actions and decisions; an obligation or duty to behave in an appropriate manner; and not blaming, justifying or quitting

#### **Expectations:**

Rights        All people in our school community have the right to:

Learn;

Be heard;

Be safe; and

To be treated with respect.

Respect        Each person should:

Be treated and spoken to with dignity and courtesy;

Respect the school's property and the property of individuals within the school;

And, respect their own rights and the rights of others.

(ie. Being polite; including in all activities; being kind and sensitive to the feelings of others; following classroom and school rules;

Wearing appropriate clothing; allowing others to speak; using appropriate voice and language; putting litter in garbage cans; etc.)

Responsibility everyone should take responsibility for their actions, decision and personal belongings.

(ie. Being on time; participating and giving your best effort; cooperating with others; being honest; reporting damage; accepting consequences for actions; using equipment appropriately; informing an adult, in a timely manner, of bullying, harassment or intimidation incidents; cleaning up after yourself; etc.)

Unacceptable Conduct: The following is not an all-inclusive list. It exemplifies the types of behaviors or acts that will not be condoned at school:

Bullying      Harassment or Intimidation      Possession of a weapon

Swearing      Defiant Behavior      Abuse of Property

Fighting      Endangering yourself or others      Stealing

Possession or use of Cigarettes, Drugs or Alcohol

The school will treat seriously behavior or communication that discriminate based on race, color, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex or sexual orientation (prohibited grounds set out in the [BC Human Rights Code](#))

Special considerations may apply to students with special needs, if they are unable to comply due to having a disability of an intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional or behavioral nature.

The Board will also take all reasonable steps to prevent retaliation by a person against a student who has made a complaint of a breach of a Code of Conduct.

### **Consequences:**

Considerations:

1. Severity of infraction
2. Frequency of inappropriate behavior
3. Age of maturity of student (As students move through the grades and become older and more mature, we believe they should be held more accountable for their decisions.)
4. Response of student to misbehavior

**Possible Outcomes:**

Loss of privileges

Counselling

Social Behavior Lesson

Report written by student

Duty of Service to School or Fellow Students

Restitution

In-school suspension

Out of School suspension

Expulsion

Whenever possible and appropriate, any consequences applied will be of a restorative nature rather than punitive.

**Notification:**

School officials may have a responsibility to advise other parties of serious breaches of the code of conduct, such as:

- Parents of offenders and victims
- School district officials – as required by school district policy
- Police and/or other agencies – as required by law
- All parents – when deemed to be important to reassure members of the school community that school officials are aware of a serious situation or incident and are taking appropriate action to address it.

**Application:**

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