

Unsworth Code of Conduct

PURPOSE

As a learning community at Unsworth Elementary, we provide a nurturing environment for students to achieve high standards and to become respectful, responsible, cooperative members of society. Our Code of Conduct takes into account the rights, freedoms and responsibilities of both individuals and the school community and clarifies behavior expectations that are acceptable and unacceptable.

The Code of Conduct is established to maintain a safe, caring and orderly environment for purposeful learning for all students. Students are responsible for respecting the rights and dignity of others in a learning environment free from discrimination as set out in the B.C. Human Rights' Code.

EXPECTATIONS OF BEHAVIOUR

Our Code of Conduct is designed to teach children how to make choices with a focus on:

- **S**elf-regulating emotions and behaviours
- Being **O**pen-hearted by creating a sense of belonging where all feel welcome
- Demonstrating **A**wesome Attitudes toward learning, self and others and always trying their best
- **R**especting self, others and the environment;

Students at Unsworth are able to **SOAR** when they follow expectations of behavior. It is understood that as students become older and more mature, expectations of increasing responsibility and self-regulation will be evident.

Expectations apply to behavior at school, during school-organized or sponsored activities, and behavior beyond these times (including on-line bullying that negatively impacts the safe, respectful environment of the school and/or student learning). All staff, students and parents at Unsworth will work together to help each other reach their fullest potential and SOAR.

ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR

- Respect self and the rights of others;
- Respect the property of others and the school;
- Attend school regularly and punctually;
- Inform an adult of any unsafe behavior;
- Work diligently and to the best of their ability; and
- Follow school rules and expectations

Some positive incentives for students SOARing:

- Recognition by staff, peers, the school community
- Recognition with 'Eagle Eye'
- A feeling of self-respect; pride; self-esteem

UNACCEPTABLE CONDUCT

Behaviors and acts that interfere with the learning of others or create unsafe conditions are considered unacceptable.

All behaviors are not listed in the Code, but those cited are examples.

Examples of unacceptable conduct:

- * Vandalism
- * Weapons
- * Illegal substances
- * Lying/cheating
- * Intimidation
- * Bullying (verbal/physical/online or cyberbullying)
- * Theft
- * Insolence/defiance
- * Harassment/racism
- * Violence
- * Threatening behaviour

Discrimination of the following will not be tolerated:

- * Race
- * Colour
- * Ancestry
- * Age
- * Place of origin
- * Sexual orientation
- * Religion
- * Marital status
- * Family status
- * Physical/Mental disability
- * Gender identity/expression

CONSEQUENCES OF UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR

If a student chooses harmful actions to him/herself or the school community, there will be progressive discipline and/or consequences. Considerations are given to the severity of the incident, the frequency of the incidents and the age/maturity of the students.

Responses to unacceptable behaviors are consistent and fair. Considerations may apply to students with a disability of an intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional or behavioral nature when determining appropriate disciplinary action.

Disciplinary action, whenever possible, is preventative and restorative. As often as possible, students are encouraged to participate in the development of meaningful consequences using:

- Problem-solving conversations
- Problem-solving assignments
- Restorative circles
- Contracts/school or public service
- Referral to School Based Team
- Counselling
- Suspension (in school/out of school)

NOTIFICATION & COMMUNICATION

At Unsworth Elementary, we share a responsibility to protect every teacher's right to teach and every student's right to learn. The classroom teacher handles most issues arising from classroom behaviour. Issues are referred to the Principal if they are major offences or chronic behaviour problems.

In the event that there is a concern for the safety of students or staff, school personnel have a responsibility to inform other parties of a serious breach of conduct. (Eg. Parents, school district officials, police and/or other agencies)