

Code of Life

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27 août 2009

Table of Contents

Principles	1
Respect	1
Responsibility	1
Rights	1
Expected Behavior	2
Students and staff are expected to	2
Unacceptable Behavior	3
Unacceptable Behavior	3
Serious Offense	3
Consequences	4
Objective	4
Appropriate Consequences	4
Documenting	5
Healthy Habits	6
Objective	6
Junk food	6
Country Food	6
Annex	7

Principles

Respect

It is expected that school members will exhibit behavior that shows respect for the rights, property and safety of themselves and others.

Responsibility

It is expected that school members will accept personal responsibility for their behavior in order to maintain a safe and productive learning environment.

Rights

It is expected that school members will honor the rights of themselves and others through the process of learning and demonstrating appropriate behavior in the context of social responsibility.

The above principles are the guidelines used to write and apply this Code of Conduct. It applies equally to everyone in the school, including students, parents, teachers, support staff and administrators.

Expected Behavior

Students and staff are expected to

- show respect for the rights, property and safety of themselves and others;
- respect and appreciate diversity of all school members regardless of their origin, culture, gender, age and ability;
- express themselves with socially acceptable languages and gestures;
- exhibit behavior that avoids all forms of intimidation, harassment, racism and discrimination;
- treat school property and the property of others with care;
- respect the responsibility of all school members in exercising their duties;
- promote positive behavior through the avoidance of all types of violent acts;
- attend classes, activities and events, and be prepared and on time.

Unacceptable Behavior

Unacceptable Behavior

Behavior that is judged unacceptable in a school setting but not serious enough to significantly interrupt the learning climate, endanger the well-being of others, or damage school property. Here are some examples of unacceptable behavior (this list is NOT exhaustive) :

- Chronic minor offenses;
- smoking;
- profanity;
- disrespect or insubordination;
- failure to obey instructions;
- cheating and lying;
- missing school without justification;
- loitering in the school;
- playfighting;
- bullying;
- etc

Serious Offense

Behavior that is judged serious enough to significantly disrupt the learning climate of the school, endanger the well-being of others or damage the school property. Here are examples of serious offenses (this list is NOT exhaustive) :

- vandalism;
- verbal abuse;
- racial or discriminatory behavior;
- sexual harassment or assault;
- any kind of abuse (sexual or physical);
- violence;
- use or possession of weapons or drugs;
- illegal activity;
- etc

Consequences

Objective

The goal of any disciplinary action is to promote the learning of self-control and to change inappropriate behavior. Expected behavior must be actively taught constantly. The strategies used to develop understanding and respect for the code may vary from student to student. When there is non-compliance with behavioral expectations of the code, despite the application of these strategies, appropriate consequences should be initiated. The following principles apply :

- consequences will be appropriate for the student's stage of development and in consideration of the student's special needs;
- consequences will reflect the severity of misbehavior and take into account the frequency and duration of the misbehavior;
- consequences will be chosen primarily for their educational value;
- consequences will make sense to the students as much as possible;
- consequences will be appropriately timed.

When managing serious offenses :

- inappropriate behavior is never ignored;
- appropriate action is always taken;
- immediate action is taken to bring a stop to the behavior;
- additional action in the form of an intervention designed to produce a constructive behavioral change.

The following consequences are specifically forbidden to any type of misconduct :

- corporal or physical punishment;
- use of collective responsibility (group punishment) in disciplinary procedures;
- use of academic work as a disciplinary procedure, i.e. assigning extra academic work to punish misbehavior;
- use of evaluation procedures as disciplinary procedures, i.e. arbitrarily assigning a test to an individual or class that is behaving inappropriately.

Appropriate Consequences

Here is a list of appropriate consequences that can be used as disciplinary measures to help change inappropriate behavior.

- Verbal warning
- Apologies
- Reparative work (cleaning, fixing or paying for something they damaged)
- Meeting with the student

- Calling the parents to inform them of the behavior of their child
- Meeting with the parents
- Detention during recess or after school.
- Suspension for a definite period of time
- Indefinite suspension
- Involving the Education Committee
- Requesting professional assistance from Complementary Services
- Expulsion

It is important to understand that consequences must be chosen in such a way that they will lead to a change in the inappropriate behavior. The offender must be made accountable for his or her action and needs to be given a chance to rehabilitate him or herself.

Documenting

It is extremely important that every incident involving a student be documented. This serves two purposes. First, it protects the students by recording what happened, when, where and what was done to fix the problem. By keeping track of everything that was done, it becomes an invaluable tool to communicate with the parents. Second, it protects the teachers and the administrators from being subject to reprimands or false accusations. It insures that there will be documentation to support any claims of abuse from anyone.

It is important to fill the proper form with all the necessary information. It should include, but is not limited to :

- Who was involved in the incident
- What happened
- When did it happened
- Where did it happened
- What consequence was applied
- Was there any kind of follow-up

Healthy Habits

Objective

One of the goals of the school is to teach children how to make healthy choices for a better life. It is why we decided as a school to promote better food choices for a healthier lifestyle. The following will explain how we want to proceed from here.

Junk food

Promoting Healthy Habits means that our school will be a Junk Food Free Zone. Junk food is known to be high in calory and low in nutrient. By putting into place a program that not only encourage healthy choices, but comes up with objectives to be met, we believe that junk food will be replaced by more nutrient rich food that the students and the staff will enjoy. This will not happen overnight. Eating junk food is a strong habit that a lot of young students have. The challenge will be to change this habit and substituting better food choices.

At first, we will ask teachers and students to stop eating junk food in class. Junk food will be prohibited from being brought to class. During that time, we will still tolerate that students eat junk food during recess outside. Then, we will gradually prohibit junk food everywhere in the school, including during extracurricular activities.

Country Food

As an alternative to junk food, the school will promote country food such as bannik and berries. These are healthy alternatives to junk food that are readily accessible and inexpensive. It's also a strong statement that the inuit culture can be an active part of school life.

Annex

[Here will be example of form to be used for documenting incidents and specific example of consequences to be applied in case of specific misconduct]

Things to discuss :

- Incident Report Form
- Outdoor shoes
- Recess Rules
- Running in the Hall
- Lateness