

**Southlands Elementary School**  
**Code of Conduct**



(Date Reviewed June 23, 2023)

**Statement of Purpose**

Southlands Elementary is committed to uphold a safe, inclusive, equitable, welcoming, nurturing, and healthy school environment.

- We will promote clear behavioural expectations of respectful and responsible citizenship that lead to a culture of safety, caring and respect amongst everyone in the school and programs and at all school-events and activities.
- The School Code of Conduct applies at school, during school-organized or sponsored activities, on school buses, and any behaviour even if outside of school or school hours, (including on-line behaviour), that negatively impacts the safe, caring, or orderly environment of the school, and/or student learning.

**Conduct Expectations**

• **Acceptable Conduct**

- Respecting self, others, and the school
- Contributing to a safe, caring, positive, inclusive, and peaceful environment
- Seeking to prevent violence and potentially violent situations, and demonstrating social responsibility by reporting such situations
- Engaging in purposeful learning activities

• **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
- Acts of bullying, harassment, intimidation, or physical 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.

- **Rising Expectations**

Students are expected to learn and mature as they move through successive grades, and as such the expectations progress towards increasing personal responsibility and self-discipline, as well as increasing consequences for inappropriate conduct/unacceptable behavior.

- **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.

### Consequences

- 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/challenge of an intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional, or behavioural nature.
- Responses to unacceptable conduct are consistent and fair.
- Students, as often as possible, are encouraged to participate in the development of meaningful consequences for violations of the established code of conduct.

- **Notifications**

The principal or designate has a responsibility to inform other parties of serious breaches of the code of conduct. These parties include:

- Parent(s) of student offender(s) and parent(s) of student victim(s) – in every instance
- School district officials
- Police and/or other agencies, as required by law
- School community, when deemed necessary, to reassure members that school officials are taking appropriate action

- **Suspensions**

In accordance with the School Act, Sec. 85 (2) (ii) and (d), the Board authorizes the principal or designate of any school in the district to suspend a student from attendance at school for up to five days. Suspensions may be for the following reasons:

- a) because a student is willfully and repeatedly disrespectful to a teacher or to any other employee of the Board carrying out responsibilities approved by the Board;
- b) because the behaviour of the student breaches the District Code of Conduct or other policy and/or has a harmful effect on others or the learning environment of the school;
- c) because the student has failed to comply with the School Code of Conduct.

Suspensions over five days are made in consultation with the appropriate Director of Instruction as per [District Student Code of Conduct, AP 350](#).

As per AP 350 7.7 an educational program must be provided.

**School Moto**

We care about ourselves – We care about each other – We care about this place

**THE SOUTLANDS CARES MATRIX**

We Care About Others By:	We Care About Ourselves By:	We Care About This Place By:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Treating others the way we wish to be treated, in the school, on our playground, while on field trips, and on the way to and from home each day, in the neighbourhood and on the school bus.</li> <li>✓ Respecting others' privacy, in person and online, and using technology and media safely and appropriately.</li> <li>✓ Following the directions of school staff.</li> <li>✓ Understanding that racism will not be tolerated in our school. We are anti-racists.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Taking care of our bodies with enough sleep, healthy food, exercise and cleanliness.</li> <li>✓ Coming to school dressed for the weather and staying home when we are sick.</li> <li>✓ Staying on school grounds unless supervised by staff or guardian.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Keeping our classrooms and all shared spaces clean.</li> <li>✓ Using school materials, library books and devices with care.</li> <li>✓ Washing our hands frequently.</li> <li>✓ Moving safely and quietly around the school, keeping to the right side of hallways and stairwells.</li> <li>✓ Treating nature on our grounds, in Pacific Spirit Park, and other outside spaces with respect and care.</li> </ul>
<p>When we make mistakes we:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Take responsibility.</li> <li>✓ Make amends to whomever was harmed.</li> <li>✓ Solve conflicts peacefully.</li> <li>✓ Learn from our mistakes.</li> </ul>		

