

VSB Adult Education School

Code of Conduct

(Date Reviewed June 5, 2023)

Statement of Purpose

VSB Adult Education is committed to uphold a safe, inclusive, equitable, welcoming, nurturing, and healthy school environment.

- 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 and supporting a safe, caring, inclusive, and peaceful environment
- Engaging in purposeful learning activities
- Following expectations of Academic Honesty and Integrity

• **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 other, 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
- Violations of Academic Honesty

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 grow older and as such, 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.
- It is also recognized that in many instances a restorative response may have greater impact on improving behaviour, increase a person’s empathy, help to rebuild community and a sense of safety.
- Repetitive or severe unacceptable behaviour may result in increased severity of disciplinary action.
- 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.

- **Notifications**

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

- Where appropriate, parents and guardians
- 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.

- **Withdrawal from program; causes for**

In consultation with our Director of Instruction and, in accordance with School Act, Sec. 85 (3) the following will apply:

(3) Despite any other provision of this Act, a board may refuse to offer an educational program to a student 16 years of age or older if that student

(a) has refused to comply with the code of conduct, other rules and policies referred to in section 6, or

(b) has failed to apply himself or herself to his or her studies.

[School Act \(gov.bc.ca\)](http://gov.bc.ca)

Student Signature _____ Date _____