

David Thompson School

Code of Conduct



(Date Reviewed June 19, 2024)

All student codes of conduct are created in alignment with VSB [AP 350-District Code of Conduct](#).

Statement of Purpose

David Thompson 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.

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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
- Click or tap here to enter text.

- **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
- [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

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.

[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

- **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.

As outlined in the District Code of Conduct, effective July 1, 2024,

Personal Digital Device Usage

To foster a safe and focused learning environment for students, the use of personal digital devices, that distract from learning, such as cell phones, tablets and electronic devices, are restricted during school hours and on school property. Educators and school staff will continue to model digital citizenship in the classroom and avoid the use of personal digital devices for non-instructional purposes.

Personal digital devices must be turned off or placed on silent mode before entering the classroom and remain silent during the school day. Personal digital devices are not permitted for use during class time unless an educator has given permission.

The use of personal devices is permitted under the following circumstances:

For educational purposes, as directed by the educator in the classroom.

For health and medical purposes as outlined in an Individual Education Plan or Student Safety Plan.

To support special or diverse educational needs, such as assistive technology related to Individual Education Plans or Student Support Plans.

The expectation is that students will follow the personal digital device policy and school guidelines.

The Vancouver School Board is not responsible for the loss, damage, or disappearance of personal digital devices that students decide to bring to school.

A regular review of the school's Code of Conduct guidelines for personal digital devices are essential to ensure their effectiveness and relevance in addressing current issues and meeting the evolving needs of students, teachers, and parents. Adjustments to the Code of Conduct may be necessary to ensure that school guidelines remain relevant and effective in promoting a conducive learning environment. Changes

may be prompted by emerging incidents that highlight the need for enhanced measures to protect student well-being and privacy.

School Motto:

|  DT | | ALL SETTINGS | IN CLASSROOMS | HALLS/COMMON AREAS | OFF CAMPUS IN COMMUNITY | AT ASSEMBLIES/ PERFORMANCES | USING CYBERSPACE TECHNOLOGY | AT DANCES |
|--|---|--|---|--|--|---|---|---|
| C | CONNECTIONS Developing a sense of belonging based on shared relationships | We will: - promote participation and inclusion in school events and activities - build trusting relationships - report bullying and harassment | We will: - engage in class activities - work productively with others - ask thoughtful questions | We will: - be friendly and courteous | We will: - promote learning through community service - demonstrate pride in our school | We will: - give full attention to speakers and performers | We will: - use courtesy and respect in communications - access school information - report cyber-bullying | We will: - be friendly and welcoming to people - participate and have fun and make sure others are participating and having fun |
| A | ACCOUNTABILITY We accept responsibility for our actions We take ownership of our behaviour | We will: - take responsibility for our actions in the David Thompson community, and accept consequences - make amends by apologizing, repairing, or replacing | We will: - accept responsibility for learning by doing our own work and fair share of group work - take ownership of classroom behaviour | We will: - use language that is acceptable to all - report aggressive or socially unacceptable behaviour - keep common areas clean | We will: - take responsibility for representing DT in the community and at other schools - keep our community free of litter and respect private property | We will: - demonstrate proper etiquette and ask others to honour our expectations - remove hats - turn off cell phones and refrain from using silent electronic devices | We will: - take responsibility for our "online presence" - respect the privacy and reputation of others by refraining from posting damaging, untrue, or misleading information | We will: - take responsibility for dressing appropriately - keep clothes drug and alcohol free - dance in an acceptable manner i.e. no grinding |
| R | RESPECT We care for self, each other, and community | We will: - observe school rules - respect different cultural/ethnic groups - respect personal space - respect property and the environment | We will: - listen actively - practice academic honesty - be prepared and on time for class | We will: - respect personal space - keep our school clean - use recycling containers | We will: - show care for our community - respect community members - keep our community clean | We will: - listen with perfect attention - bring a positive attitude to all performances (regardless of our personal taste) | We will: - respect the school policy for cell phone use - use the internet for legitimate, positive purposes | We will: - respect personal space - respect school expectations by wearing appropriate clothing |
| E | ENCOURAGEMENT We will support and celebrate positive effort | We will: - encourage and support positive choices of others - have a positive attitude about school and learning | We will: - model positive communication beyond effort - celebrate learning | We will: - use appropriate language - encourage others to use appropriate language | We will: - encourage our friends to uphold community standards | We will: - show appreciation for performers and guests in appropriate ways | We will: - encourage and engage in discussion of technology usage | We will: - encourage others to dance and have fun - encourage positive communication |
| S | SAFETY We ensure the health and well-being of all | We will: - follow directions from staff at all times - understand and follow emergency procedures - ensure D.T. is a weapon free school - obtain help for anyone who is in distress | We will: - learn, understand and follow safety routines for each class - know evacuation routes for each class - learn how to make healthy/safe choices | We will: - walk at an appropriate pace - keep doorways, aisles, and stairways clear | We will: - report unsafe behaviour to an adult - obey traffic rules (laws) | We will: - enter and exit in an orderly fashion - sit in assigned areas | We will: - protect personal information - avoid dangerous and questionable areas | We will: - keep our community safe by reporting unsafe behaviour - respect others by asking before taking pictures or videos |