

John Henderson Elementary School

Code of Conduct



(Date Reviewed June 19, 2024)

Being SAFE
Being FAIR
Being KIND

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

Statement of Purpose

Henderson 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 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

SAFE, FAIR, KIND BEHAVIOUR:

1. Towards OTHERS.....

- Speaking politely to others and using good manners
- Telling others politely when you don't like their actions

- Asking for adult help when it is needed
- Listening carefully to all staff and students
- Being kind and friendly
- Using hands and feet safely and appropriately
- No fighting, play-fighting, or bullying
- Sharing equipment and materials
- Being honest and telling the truth
- Demonstrating good sportsmanship
- Honouring all cultures and language

2. Towards OUR LEARNING.....

- Being on time and coming in immediately when the bell rings
- Respecting others' personal space, desks & cubbies
- Focusing on your work and doing your best
- Completing tasks and assignments
- Cooperating with others
- Using "inside voices" and working quietly in hallways
- Storing technology when at school unless instructed by staff

3. Towards THIS PLACE.....

- Being proud of this school
- Leaving things better than you found them
- Asking permission to use someone else's property
- Leaving valuable items at home i.e., technology/games
- Letting school staff know about graffiti or equipment that needs repairing
- Picking up garbage after ourselves and others
- Eating and drinking in the lunchroom only
- Staying on school grounds (except with parents' written permission)
- Recycling and using materials wisely
- Being careful with school equipment
- Storing bikes, scooters, skateboards, and roller blades while at school
- Using appropriate language
- Being quiet in the classroom, in the library or in the hallways
- Using washrooms safely, respectfully, and appropriately
- Being safe in hallways and in crowded areas
- Being helpful to visitors

..... always remember, you are representing HENDERSON

- **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
- Speaking disrespectfully to others
- Being mean or unfriendly
- Fighting, play-fighting, or bullying
- Arriving late to school and/or interrupting class in session
- Going into others’ personal space, desks, and cubbies without asking
- Not doing your best
- Talking loudly or being noisy in hallways
- Using technology without permission when at school
- Writing graffiti or breaking/destroying school equipment
- Eating/drinking outside the lunchroom and not cleaning up your garbage
- Leaving school grounds (without parents’ written permission)
- Using inappropriate language
- Using washrooms unsafely, disrespectfully and/or inappropriately

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.

1. Initial, Minor Infractions.....

- A discussion with an adult/ with fellow students – apology given (written or verbal)
- Referral to the classroom teacher
- A “time out” for reflection

2. Repeated Misbehaviour.....

- Infraction recorded in the office
- Loss of privileges (e.g., time spent off the playground)
- Removal of possession (e.g., skateboard, device, etc.)
- Counselor informed/Youth and Family Worker informed
- Parents informed

3. Serious Problems/ Refusal to Change.....

- Record of infractions added to student office file
- Discussion with administration
- Parents informed – behaviour plan developed
- In school suspension

- **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 are restricted for the instructional day. This includes class time, recess and lunch during school hours of 9:00am to 3:00pm. Personal digital devices must be turned off or placed on silent mode and out of sight for the entire school day.

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 direction of the educators. Students who repeatedly do not follow the personal digital device policy may be asked to store their personal digital devices with an administrator for the remainder of the day.

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.

WHO YOU CAN CALL FOR HELP:

Call the school at (604) 713-4837

- Your child's teacher
- Principal, Harjinder Sandhu
- Vice Principal, Amber Logie
- Counsellor Indira Dhari
- Youth and Family Worker, David Fuller
- Indigenous Education Enhancement Worker, Carmen Hemlin