

## **Tecumseh Annex Elementary School** **Code of Conduct**



(Date Reviewed June 21, 2024)

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

### **Statement of Purpose**

Tecumseh Annex 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
- To encourage the development of socially responsible behaviour.
- To foster a safe, respectful, and welcoming learning environment for all students, staff, and parents.
- To clearly communicate behavioural expectations to the school community.
- 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.
- If parents and or guardians have concerns regarding violations of the Code of Conduct that relate to their child, they should address these concerns with the classroom teacher and/ or administration.

### **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
  - Follow our school Positive Behavioural Intervention Strategy, called R.O.C.K.
    - Respect, Open-Mindedness, Community and Kindness

- **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
- Accessing inappropriate sites on the school’s Internet
- Playing pranks on others
- Saying mean things about others in person or via any digital format and platform
- [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.

- **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.*

**School Motto:**

**Bullying Policy and Definition:**

At Tecumseh Annex we believe that all students and staff have the right to work and attend school in a safe, caring, and responsible environment. This environment is characterized by a positive relationship between students, staff, and parents.

It is recognized that bullying by anyone (adult or child) has a negative effect on the school climate and therefore is not tolerated at Tecumseh Annex.

Bullying and harassment are defined as:

Comments or conduct that are unwelcome and often creates an intimidating, demeaning or hostile environment. Bullying is a type of harassment.

Bullying can be confused with conflict that happens between students; however, bullying is a repeated action, and/or includes a power imbalance.

Bullying can include (but may not be limited to) the following:

- Physical Bullying: Hitting; kicking; tripping; pinching; pushing or damaging property.
- Verbal Bullying: Name Calling - insults; teasing; intimidation; homophobic or racist remarks or verbal abuse.
- Social/Emotional or Relational Bullying: Behavioural actions designed to harm a child's reputation or cause humiliation like: lying; spreading rumors; negative facial gestures; playing mean jokes to embarrass or humiliate a child; mimicking a child in a mean way; or encouraging social exclusion of a child.
- Cyber Bullying: Taunting or humiliation through social media sites/internet; cruel websites targeting specific youth; humiliating others while playing online games; verbal or emotional bullying through chat rooms, instant messages, or texting; posting photos/videos of other youth on the internet.

\*If a student engages in any of the above-mentioned behaviours the school wide discipline system will be followed, and the appropriate level of intervention will be instituted.

**Electronic Device Policy:**

As a school we believe that technology is an important tool for enhancing learning and we expect students to use technology tools in a **responsible and respectful manner**. Considering how these technologies impact upon students' levels of physical activity, interactive play, and social interactions, the following policy for personal technological devices has been established:

- a. iPads, iPods, tablets, and other personal technological devices are permitted at school only with permission of the classroom teacher. However, students bring these items at their own risk as we cannot guarantee their safety and will not accept responsibility for loss or damage.
- b. Students can only use these devices during instructional time with teacher permission.
- c. At no time should students post, publish, or text information about other students or staff on the Internet without the consent of a teacher.
- d. All use of electronic devices must be consistent with the general guidelines of our Code of Conduct.

**Physical Violence and Weapons Policy:**

At Tecumseh Annex we believe that members of the school community are expected to use non-violent means to resolve conflict. We teach and model a 'hands and feet to self' policy. Physically aggressive behaviour is not a responsible way to interact with others and will be responded to appropriately.

The possession, use of or threatened use of any object to injure another person or self is strictly prohibited.

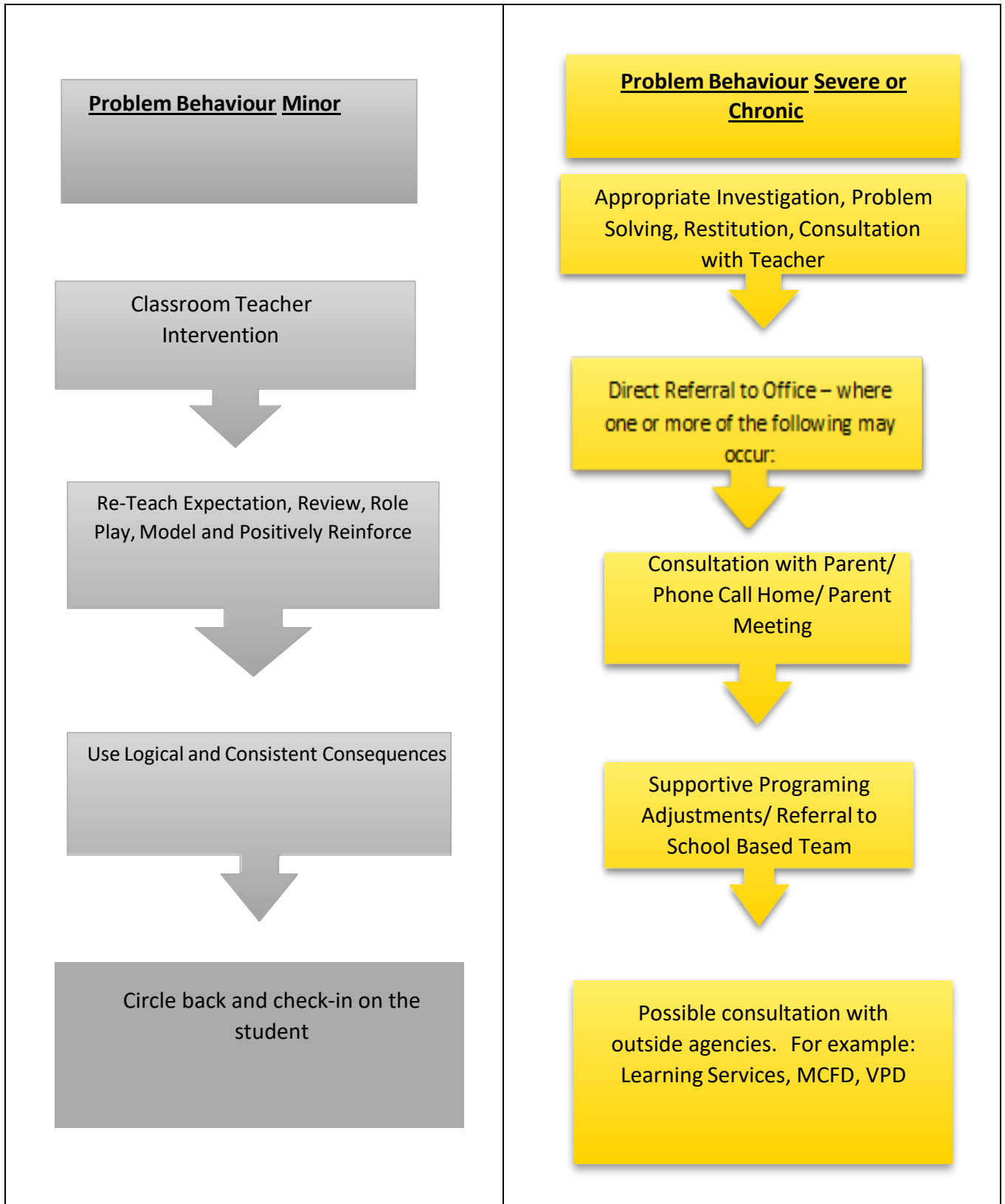
**Illegal Drugs and Alcohol Policy:**

Alcohol and banned substances are addictive and present a health hazard. The possession of, or under the influence of, alcohol or illegal drugs is strictly prohibited by staff, students, and visitors to our school.

**Reporting Violations of Code of Conduct:**

At Tecumseh Annex we encourage all students to seek help from adults if he or she encounters a problem that he or she is unable to solve. We also encourage students to be active witnesses and to seek advice from adults if they feel another child is being treated in a manner that is contrary to our Code of Conduct. To foster an environment where students feel safe to report to staff, the school will take all reasonable steps to prevent retaliation against a student who has made a complaint of a breach of the Code of Conduct.

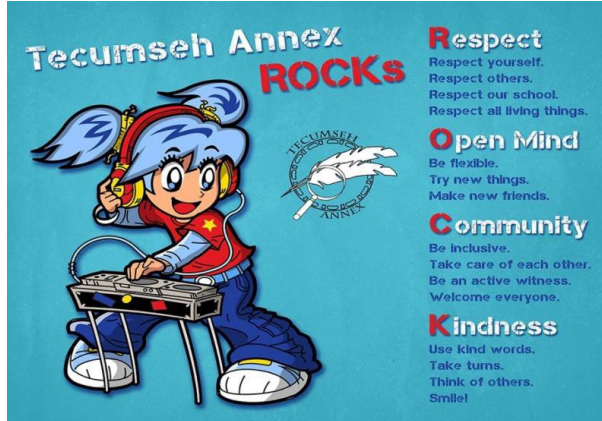
The following flow chart describes the process for supporting problem behaviours:



**Tecumseh Annex R.O.C.K.S!**

At Tecumseh Annex we believe that character development through the teaching of positive social skills is paramount to the success of every student. Students are encouraged to learn to **R.O.C.K.** with Respect, an Open Mind, Community and Kindness.

In the pursuit of the development of these skills students are encouraged to apply pro-social skills in all locations and are explicitly taught the following:



**At Tecumseh Annex it is our responsibility to  
R.O.C.K.!**

These are some examples of R.O.C.K. Behaviour:

	<b>Respect</b>	<b>Open Mind</b>	<b>Community</b>	<b>Kindness</b>
Playground	Hands and feet to self. One at a time. Walk on the equipment. Running is for the woodchips!	Be flexible. Try new things. Make new friends. Walk away from problems. Choose something new. Be a risk taker.	Be inclusive. Take care of each other. Be an active witness. Welcome everyone.	Take turns. Use kind words. Smile!
Lunch Room	Respect other's needs for safety (allergies, body space) Use quiet voices. Speak with an empty mouth. Listen to adults' requests. Eat all your lunch. Show your parents & guardians that you can open and eat all your food yourself!	Try all your food. Sit beside different people. Learning about new foods.	Clean up after yourselves. Be helpful. Make space. Remember to say, 'thank you'!	Use encouraging words. Let others go first.
Hallways	Use walking feet. Use quiet voices. Walk on the right. Respect body space. Look and enjoy – respect the displays!	Be aware of the needs of others.	Look out for each other. Take a quick turn when there is a line up (water fountain, sinks, washrooms)	Say hello. Hold the door open for someone. Smile!
Washrooms	Respect privacy – one person per stall. Close the door. Wash your hands. Use quiet voices.		Clean up after yourself. Compost organics and paper towel. Flush! Take a buddy.	Look out for one another. Help students in need. Wait for your buddy patiently.

Use a washroom pass.

