

## Norma Rose Point Elementary School

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# NORMA ROSE POINT'S COMPREHENSIVE CODE OF CONDUCT (revised Sept. 2020)

## Comprehensive Code of Conduct

## **Statement of Purpose**

Norma Rose Point School's Code of Conduct is designed to encourage students to respect themselves and others and to strive to do their personal best in all ways. These expectations apply to behaviour at school, during school organized or sponsored activities, and behaviour beyond these times (including on-line behaviour) that impacts the safe, caring or orderly environment of the school and/or student learning. Its purpose is to ensure a safe and orderly environment in which students are able to learn and teachers are able to facilitate that learning without interference.

Norma Rose Point School promotes the values expressed in the **BC Human Rights Code** respecting the rights of all individuals in accordance with the law – prohibiting discrimination based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex or sexual orientation – in respect of discriminatory publication and discrimination in accommodation, service and facility in the school environment. **Racism will not be tolerated in our school**.

Our code has adopted an aboriginal medicine wheel concept named "the Circle of Courage," which emphasizes social and emotional growth in one's life. Research shows that children who are healthy both socially and emotionally are the best learners; children who display positive social-emotional traits are successful in school. As the Circle of Courage proposes, it is important for children to grow and develop in four domains.



NRPS Circle of Courage

## **Expectations of Student Conduct**

Each domain carries with it some guiding principles. Additionally, we have included animals from Coast Salish tradition which symbolize the same qualities.

Students are expected to conduct themselves in constructive and helpful ways. Refer to this chart for guiding behaviours that are acceptable.

Qualities
Come to school ready to learn and always do your best Eat nutritious food, get lots of exercise, and plenty of rest Set personal goals and make plans to achieve them Take pride in your achievements and celebrate growth
Be accountable for your actions and lead by example Know yourself - be a self-regulated learner Be a creative, critical, and flexible thinker
Respect and take care of our environment Be helpful and cooperative with adults and other students at school, at home, and in our community Stand up against injustice - report behaviour that is unsafe, disrespectful, or bullying Solve problems in a fair and peaceful manner
Be generous with your time, materials, and talents Care about the feelings of others and help those who are hurt or in need Respect the feelings, rights, and bodies of others Give people their space when they need it for thinking, learning, and working Be inclusive and welcoming, make sure no one feels left out Treat others as you want to be treated

## **Rising Expectations**

It is expected that as children mature and move through the grades they will:

- be given more responsibility for demonstrating acceptable behaviour and self-discipline; consequences for not following the Code of Conduct will be appropriate for the age and maturity of student. and special considerations may apply to students with special needs
- act as appropriate role models
- be given additional opportunities in the areas of student leadership



# NORMA ROSE POINT'S COMPREHENSIVE CODE OF CONDUCT

## Norma Rose Point School citizens ...

- take PRIDE,
- are ACCOUNTABLE,
- STAND UP and SPEAK OUT against injustice, and
- are INCLUSIVE and WELCOMING.

### Expected behaviour of Norma Rose Point School students:

- In the classroom and library.....
  - Be on time, prepared for class and on task
  - Listen and speak to others with respect
  - Treat all staff and guests with respect by listening
  - Following directions and speaking through kindness
  - Your teacher should always know where you are
  - Respect one's own and others' property
  - Respect the Internet Policy
- During lunch time.....
  - Eat nutritious food and clean up after yourself
  - Do not bring food or other products that are unsafe for other students
  - Get lots of exercise
  - Use please and thank you
  - Stay seated while eating
  - Use quiet voices
- On the playground.....
  - Include others in your play. Make sure no one feels left out.
  - Play safely
  - Care about the feelings of others
  - Give people their space if they need it
  - Work to solve problems peacefully
  - Take responsibility for your actions
  - Stay on school grounds and in designated areas
  - Keep hands, feet and unkind words to yourself
  - Solve problems by talking and/or seeking help
  - Stand up against behaviour that is unsafe, disrespectful or bullying
- In the washroom.....
  - You are there to go to the washroom
  - Flush the toilet, wash your hands and turn off the taps
  - Throw paper towels in the garbage only
  - Report problems to an adult
- Everywhere...
  - Demonstrate respect and manners
  - Be proud of your school and community
  - Treat all equipment and materials with care
  - Always respect other people's property
  - Dress appropriately for school
  - Respect and accept all individuals no matter their race, colour, ancestry, etc. (see BC Human Rights Code at the top of this document)

..... always remember, you are representing Norma Rose Point School.....



## NORMA ROSE POINT SCHOOL'S COMPREHENSIVE CODE OF CONDUCT

## Consequences for failing to comply with behavioural expectations:

When students demonstrate behaviour that is not in keeping with the ideas described above, a disciplinary response that is based on learning and restoration (making amends) is implemented.

### Level 1: When a child breaks the Code of Conduct

At times, kids make mistakes; it's a natural part of the learning process. At these times, we aim to acknowledge and learn from these mistakes.

Some examples include, but are not limited to:

- Interfering with the learning of others
- Creating unsafe conditions (running in halls, rough-housing, throwing snowballs, riding bicycles, skateboards, scooters or in-line skates on school property)
- Disrespecting others (name calling, using inappropriate language, teasing)
- Not respecting property (littering, ripping or writing on someone else's work or school property)

Most of these choices are minor and could be solved with the teacher and student(s) and may involve a small class group or class meeting. A review of the Circle of Courage's qualities may be part of the restorative plan along with a decision – made with the student and the teacher – about appropriate restorative action (apology, act that gives back to the individual/school).

### Level 2: When a child repeatedly breaks the Code of Conduct

We believe that choices are an important part in a child's development, and, regrettably, at times children make poor choices. When a student at Norma Rose Point School presents a repeated pattern of poor choices we find it necessary to proceed to Level 2 interventions. At this point, a discussion takes place with the student, teacher and Principal. The qualities from the Circle of Courage are reviewed with the student so s/he can assess her/his mistakes. A collaborative decision will be made about appropriate restorative action and the student completes a "Make Amends Plan", which is sent home. The teacher or Principal may also request a meeting with the parents (or vice versa).

### Level 3: When a child breaks the Code of Conduct in a serious way

Norma Rose Point School values children in the highest regard. Our desire is to educate the whole child. At times, children face conflicts for which they are not equipped or emotionally capable of effectively dealing with. The Circle of Courage presents opportunities for children to learn how to deal with conflict in their lives. It is often during these instances of conflict that children act out in ways that are inappropriate, unsafe or unacceptable.

Some examples include, but are not limited to:

- Bullying, harassment, intimidation or threats
- Ignoring others who bully, harass, intimidate or threat rather than seeking help
- Racist, homophobic or sexist comments/behaviour
- Thef
- Non-compliance; willful disrespect
- Very unsafe behaviour (leaving school grounds/class)
- Vandalism/ destruction of property
- Using physical violence
- Accessing inappropriate sites online
- Making inappropriate, unsafe, threatening comments about others in person or online (e.g. blogs, emails, chats, etc)
- Playing pranks on others

Restitution may take place by way of communication between the teacher(s), parent(s), student and Principal to plan for the next level of intervention in order for the student to be successful in school. A decision will be made about the appropriate restorative action; the student will complete a "Personal Agreement" which will be sent home for parents to acknowledge.

### Serious breaches of the Code of Conduct

Choices that are made by students, such as weapon offences, violent behaviour causing injury to another person, lighting fires, stealing, vandalizing property or a major disruption in a classroom or school event, may result in an inschool or out-of-school suspension of up to five days. The authority to suspend students is given to the Principal of the school. Please note that if there is a violation of a very serious nature, suspension will be immediate. In such circumstances, a letter will be placed in the student's file. A conference with the student, parent(s), teacher(s) and Principal, and School Liaison Officer if appropriate, is required before the student can return to school. It may be necessary to make additional contacts such as district staff or other community agencies.

#### 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 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 Policy. (http://www.vsb.bc.ca/district-policy/jgd-r-district-student-code-conduct-regulation)

- \*All consequences are intended to teach students more appropriate behaviour and are restorative rather than punitive wherever possible.
- \*The severity and frequency of unacceptable behaviour as well as the age and maturity of students is considered in determining appropriate disciplinary action.
- \*Special considerations may apply if a student is unable to comply with the expectations due to having a disability of an intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional or behavioural nature.
- \*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.

### NOTIFICATION:

- 1. As circumstances warrant, any or all of the following may be notified.....
  - Classroom Teacher/Staff
  - Principal or Vice-Principal
  - Counselor/Youth and Family Worker
  - Parents and/or Guardians
  - District Staff
  - Ministerial Agencies
  - School Liaison Officer

### WHO YOU CAN CALL FOR HELP:

- 2. Call the school at (604) 713-5950
  - a. Your child's teacher
  - b. Mr. Peters Principal
  - c. Ms Burke Vice Principal
  - d. Ms Karen Romell Area Counselor