

## **Morinville Public School Student Code of Conduct Policy**

Morinville Public School Student Code of Conduct is developed in alignment with the policies of our Sturgeon Public School Division and legislation set out in the Alberta Education Act. It reflects our commitment to creating a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment for all students. By following this Code of Conduct, students, staff, and families work together to uphold the rights and responsibilities that support a positive and productive school community.

Student Code of Conduct is defined in the Education Act under Section 31. These are legal obligations of all students in Alberta Schools. Student responsibilities, as defined in Section 31 of the Education Act include:

- a. Attend school regularly and punctually,
- b. Be ready to learn and actively engage in and diligently pursue the student's education,
- c. Ensure that the student's conduct contributes to a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging,
- d. Respect the rights of others in the school,
- e. Refrain from, report and not tolerate bullying or bullying behaviour directed towards others in the school building, during the school day or by electronic means,
- f. Comply with the rules of the school and the policies of the board,
- g. Cooperate with everyone authorized by the board to provide education programs and other services
- h. Be accountable to the student's teachers and other school staff for the student's conduct, and
- i. Positively contribute to the student's school and community.

## **Parent / Guardian Responsibilities**

Parents and guardians play a vital role in their child's education. No one has more influence in shaping attitudes and establishing the importance of school for children than parents/guardians. Here are a few suggestions for parents in order to help their child instill positive attitudes towards schoolwork and develop good work habits as the year progresses.

- See that your child comes to school prepared to do their best (this involves sufficient rest, nutritious food, appropriate dress, and school supplies etc)
- Ensure that your child attends school regularly and on time. Keep the office informed of any absences or late arrivals.
- Support your child's completion of school assignments.
- Support the school staff in helping your child improve behaviour by

- supporting the school's response to your child.
- Keep in touch with the classroom teacher to ensure that progress is occurring, both academically and behaviorally.
- Parents/guardians may request interviews to assist your child in changing problem behaviours
- When children have persistent behavioural problems, the parent(s)/guardian will seek appropriate assistance such as: medical assessment, Family Resource Centre, Family social workers, psychologist, or other appropriate sources.

### **Staff Responsibilities**

- When a problem arises, staff will speak with the student, clearly explain the concern, and offer suggestions for how to make better choices. If needed, appropriate consequences may be given.
- Staff members handle minor behaviour issues at recess right away and let the homeroom teacher know so they can keep track and support the student's growth.
- If a pattern of misbehaviour begins to emerge, the homeroom teacher will connect with parents so we can work together to guide the student in making positive changes.
- If the behaviour continues, school counsellors or administrators may become involved to provide additional support and strategies for success.
- Our goal is always to encourage positive behaviour and support every student in becoming their best self.

### **Administrative Responsibilities**

- Deal with repeated minor offences or major offences
- Repeated offences may require a parent meeting with Administration (Vice Principal or Principal) and, if helpful, with the classroom teacher or other appropriate staff member
- Consequences will be assigned, which may be study time, reflection time, removal from the classroom, or community service at the school (e.g.: working in younger classrooms, snow removal, cleaning)
- Severe consequences may involve parental involvement, suspension (in school or out of school) and or expulsion. Upon return from a suspension, a meeting may be held between the school staff and the student
- If a student persists with behaviour problems, school administration may ask the parents to seek outside help or refer the student for special programming
- The response to behaviours will consider individual students' cognitive, physical, and social-emotional abilities to comprehend consequences. School administration will also consider students' age, maturity, individual circumstances, and frequency of misconduct. Modifications to service delivery may be warranted in cases of unacceptable or unsafe behaviour.

Minor offences may include, but are not limited to;

- Breaking school rules and expectations (e.g. removal of hoods)
- Disrespectful language
- Inappropriate toys/items at school
- Disrespectful behavior
- Inappropriate dress
  - If clothing is deemed inappropriate at staff discretion, a student may be asked to change, cover up or wear school provided clothing
- Disrespectful/unsafe playground behaviour
- Consequences to be grade level appropriate

Major offences may include, but are not limited to;

- Repeated minor offences
- Disrespect or defiance towards staff
- Use or being under the influence of alcohol, drugs or tobacco on school property or at school events
- Willful damage of property
- Stealing
- Bringing weapons to school or materials which could be used as such
- Intentional physical injury
- Harassment – physical, verbal, sexual, face to face or online/cyber
- Consequences to be determine by child's history, age, and nature of offence

School Standards:

### **Volunteers**

Morinville Public School values the many volunteers who help us with day to day activities and special events. Please contact your child's homeroom teacher or school administration for information on opportunities. Volunteers must provide the school with a current criminal record check and complete the Volunteer Guidelines and Confidentiality Agreement. A letter is available to take to the local RCMP station so they may waive the associated costs, as it indicates you want to volunteer at the school.

### **Assessment Philosophy**

Morinville Public School believes that all students should have the opportunity to be successful. Assessment and evaluation should be consistent with a student's abilities and programs and therefore allows for individual flexibility in demonstrating knowledge and skills. Teachers will use a variety of summative and formative assessments, including observation, products, and conversation, to communicate student progress. Parents can access their child's mark via PowerSchool Parent Portal. Please contact the school for login information at 780-939-3445 or visit the school website for more detailed information regarding our assessment policy.