

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Background

The Division endorses a set of desirable personal and interpersonal character traits that incorporate universal values common to all religions and ethnic-cultural groups.

The following purposes provide the rationale for this student code of conduct:

- ✓ To ensure that each student enrolled in a school operated by the Division is provided with a welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging.
- ✓ To support the Division's Mission, Values and Vision Statements:

Mission Statement

Here in Living Waters Catholic Schools our goal is that every child who enters our doors will graduate from a faith-filled, safe and caring environment prepared for future success.

Value Statements

We value:

- ✓ Catholic Faith: Having the right to a Catholic education and the responsibility that entails.
- ✓ Integrity: Acting honestly, ethically and with principles, thereby earning the trust of others.
- ✓ Accountability: Having the responsibility to meet commitments and being transparent in decisions and actions.
- ✓ Excellence: Growing and promoting lifelong learning for students, staff and Board members to achieve our highest potential.
- ✓ Diversity: Respecting learners' differing needs, cultures and abilities within inclusive learning environments.

Vision Statement

A transforming educational experience in which every child is engaged in a successful, self-directed learning process supported by excellent and inspirational relationships and Catholic Ethics.

Definitions

"Bullying" – has the same meaning as under the School Act:

Section 1 (b.1) "bullying" means repeated and hostile or demeaning behaviour by an individual in the school community where the behaviour is intended to cause harm, fear or distress to one or more other individuals in the school community, including psychological harm or harm to an individual's reputation.

"Division" - means the Living Waters Catholic Regional Division No. 42

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Procedures:

1. The following behaviours are acceptable:
 - 1.1 All behaviours that contribute to a welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging;
 - 1.2 All behaviours that support the Division's Mission, Value and Vision Statements.
 - 1.3 Behaviours outlined in the School Act which requires a student to:
 - 1.3.1 Be diligent in pursuing the student's studies.
 - 1.3.2 Attend school regularly and punctually.
 - 1.3.3 Cooperate fully with everyone authorized by the Division to provide education programs and other services.
 - 1.3.4 Comply with the rules of the school.
 - 1.3.5 Account to the student's teachers for the student's conduct.
 - 1.3.6 Respect the rights of others.
 - 1.3.7 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.
 - 1.3.8 Refrain from, report, and not tolerate bullying or bullying behavior directed toward others in the school, whether or not it occurs within the school building, during the school day or by electronic means.
 - 1.3.9 Positively contribute to the student's school and community.
2. The following behaviors are prohibited as per the School Act:
 - 2.1 Conduct, whether or not the conduct occurred within the school building or during the school day or by electronic means, that is injurious to the physical or mental well-being of others in the school in contravention of Section 24(1)(c) or 24(70)(c) of the *School Act*.
 - 2.2 Distribution of an intimate image of another person knowing that the person depicted in the image did not consent to the distribution or being reckless as to whether or not that person consented to the distribution in contravention of Section 24(1)(d) or 24(7)(d) of the *School Act*.
 - 2.3 Disturbing or interrupting the proceedings of a school or a school, Division, or Board of Trustees meeting in contravention of Section 27(1)(a) or (b) of the *School Act*.
 - 2.4 Loitering or trespassing in a school building or on property owned by the Division in contravention of Section 27(1)(c) of the *School Act*.
 - 2.5 Canvassing, selling, or offering to sell goods, services, or merchandise to a teacher or a student in a school without the prior approval of the Division in contravention of Section 27(2) of the *School Act*.

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3. Students are also prohibited from engaging in unacceptable behavior such as, but limited to:
 - 3.1 Bullying:
 - 3.1.1 Repeated and hostile or demeaning behavior where the behavior is intended to cause harm, fear, or distress to one or more other individuals in any Division school community, including psychological harm or harm to an individual's reputation.
 - 3.2 Academic Dishonesty
 - 3.2.1 Cheating or participating in any cheating behavior whatsoever, whether directly or indirectly.
 - 3.2.2 Misrepresenting anything or being dishonest in any way in one's academic work.
 - 3.3 Mobile phones and electronic devices
 - 3.3.1 Using a mobile phone or other electronic device when not permitted by a teacher or principal.
 - 3.4 Smoking and smokeless tobacco (*Refer to Administrative Procedure 163 and Administrative Procedure 316*)
 - 3.4.1 Smoking, burning, or vaporizing any substance whatsoever, including any tobacco, clove, herb, electronic liquid, shisha, cannabis, medication, legal drug, or illegal drug by any delivery method whatsoever, including by cigarette, electronic cigarette, cigar, pipe, hookah, joint, bong, or water pipe, unless a teacher or principal grants permission to burn a substance during a Mass or other liturgical or cultural celebration, a classroom lesson, or an activity sponsored or approved by the Division. See Administrative Procedures 163, 316 and 354 for more information in regards to tobacco, legal and illegal substances, including medical cannabis.
 - 3.4.2 Chewing, inhaling, snorting, or consuming any smokeless tobacco substance whatsoever, including chewing tobacco, dipping tobacco, and snuff.
 - 3.4.3 Selling any tobacco or similar substance, including but not limited to vaporizer liquids.
 - 3.5 Illicit Drugs (*Refer to Administrative Procedure 354*)
 - 3.5.1 Possessing, selling, consuming, using, or being under the influence of illicit or illegal substances.
 - 3.6 Restricted Drugs (*Refer to Administrative Procedure 354*)
 - 3.6.1 Consuming, using, or being under the influence of a restricted substance without or in excess of a prescription, and in the case of medical cannabis, without being authorized to do so under or in excess of the federal *Access to Cannabis for Medical Purposes Regulations*.

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- 3.6.2 Consuming, using, or being under the influence of a non-prescription drug in excess of the standard recommended dosage.
- 3.6.3 Selling, or giving away, distributing any non-prescription drug or restricted substance including alcohol.
- 3.7 Unauthorized Recordings
 - 3.7.1 Making, possessing, selling, accessing, or sharing any audio, visual, or audiovisual recording of any individual without the individual's consent unless the recording is of a public space or an event open to the public.
- 3.8 Pornography and Obscene Matters
 - 3.8.1 Making, possession, selling, accessing, or sharing any pornographic or obscene audio, visual or audiovisual matter of recording.
- 3.9 Threats, harassment, and assault
 - 3.9.1 Uttering, conveying, or causing any individual to receive a threat to cause death or bodily harm to any individual or to destroy or damage property.
 - 3.9.2 Repeatedly following or communicating with any individual or engaging in threatening conduct directed at any individual that causes the other individual reasonably, in all circumstances to fear for his or her safety or the safety of anyone he or she knows.
 - 3.9.3 Applying force, directly or indirectly, to any individual.
- 3.10 Sexual harassment, sexual interference, and sexual assault
 - 3.10.1 Directing any unwanted sexual behavior toward any individual.
 - 3.10.2 Directing any unwanted touching, directly or indirectly, with a part of the body or with an object, to any part of any individual's body for a sexual purpose.
 - 3.10.3 Applying force to any individual, directly or indirectly, for a sexual purpose.
- 3.11 Theft
 - 3.11.1 Taking, temporarily or absolutely, anything that belongs to the Division or any individual without the Division's or the individual's prior consent.
- 3.12 Property Damage/Vandalism (*Refer to Administrative Procedure 357*)
 - 3.12.1 Destroying or damaging anything that belongs to the Division or any individual.
- 3.13 Weapons
 - 3.13.1 Possessing, selling, or using anything designed to be used or intended for use in causing death or injury to any individual or for the purpose of threatening or intimidating any individual.

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3.14 Hazing

- 3.14.1 Organizing, directing, or participating in any activity expected of any individual joining any kind of group that humiliates, degrades, abuses, or endangers the individual, even if the individual joining the group claims he or she participated in the activity willingly.

3.15 Gang Activities

- 3.15.1 Participating in any activity for the benefit of a gang or criminal organization.

3.16 Behaviours during Transportation (*Refer to Administrative Procedure 351*)

3.17 Dress Code Violations (*Refer to Administrative Procedure 352*)

4. The unacceptable behaviours listed in this student code of conduct:

- 4.1 Apply to all students, including independent students within the meaning of the *School Act*;
- 4.2 Apply at all times and everywhere on Division property, including the school building, on school grounds, or in any parking areas used in relation to a school building.
- 4.3 Apply at all times off Division property during activities sponsored or approved by the Division.
- 4.4 Apply at all times off Division property if the behavior is in relation to any individual in any Division school community.
- 4.5 Apply at all times during transportation provided or coordinated for or by the Division, including transportation to and from the site of a school or elsewhere in connection to an activity sponsored or approved by the Division.
- 4.6 Apply to all online and electronic activity conducted anywhere if the behavior is in relation to any other individual in any Division school community.

5. The consequences of unacceptable behavior may be:

- 5.1 Assignment of a student whose behavior is unacceptable, disruptive or destructive to an alternate supervised location;
- 5.2 Short term removal of privileges.
- 5.3 Detention
- 5.4 Use of reasonable force as required by way of correction to restrain a student from carrying out a violent or destructive act that could harm the student or others.
- 5.5 Alternative interventions such as community conferencing or other forms of restorative justice.
- 5.6 Corrective student transfer.
- 5.7 Suspension
- 5.8 Recommendation for expulsion.

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6. A Division employee must decide consequences for unacceptable behaviour in accordance with Administrative Procedure 355 – Suspension and Expulsion.
7. When deciding a consequence for an unacceptable behavior, a Division employee must take into account the student's age, maturity, and individual behaviours and consequences.
 - 7.1 When responding to unacceptable student behaviour, the following are to be considered:
 - 7.1.1 The effect of the student's behaviour upon other students, the staff, the school, and the community;
 - 7.1.2 The nature of the action or incident that calls for disciplinary or alternative measures;
 - 7.1.3 The student's previous conduct and previous interventions;
 - 7.1.4 The student's age, maturity and abilities;
 - 7.1.5 The impact of proposed action on the student's future behaviour;
 - 7.1.6 The student's learning needs; and
 - 7.1.7 Any other information considered appropriate or relevant.
8. The Division must provide support for students who are impacted by and who engage in inappropriate behavior.
9. School Principals must create, in consultation with students, staff and parents, a school-specific code of conduct that supplements the Division student Code of Conduct with statements about school specific unacceptable behaviors and consequences.
 - 9.1 Schools shall make available both the Division and School Student Codes of Conduct to students and parents.
 - 9.1.1 The School Student Code of Conduct must be available on the school website and in handbooks as well as be reviewed with students at the start of each school year.
10. Subject to the right and responsibility of the Division to provide education programs to students through separate schools in such a way that the rights guaranteed under the Constitution of Canada of separate school electors are preserved and maintained. The Division affirms the rights of each student and employee as provided for in the *Alberta Human Rights Act* and the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* and will not discriminate against students and employees as provided for in the *Alberta Human Rights Act* or the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

Reference: Section 8, 12, 13, 16.1, 16.2, 20, 45, 45.1, 60, 61, 113 School Act
Alberta Human Rights Act
Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms
Criminal Code