

Bradner Code of Conduct

Expectations for Everyone

Rather than publish a list of things we shouldn't be doing, it is more positive and productive to simply state:

“Do what is right and considerate”

This summarizes what we are all about at Bradner, working to provide a safe and nurturing environment for everyone. We expect our students to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner while at school, on their way to and from school, or at school sponsored functions.

“Doing the right thing, at the right time, for the right reason” makes us a SMART Bradner Bulldog. (Safety, Manners, Attitude, Responsibility, Thoughtfulness).

Introduction

School boards and schools are entrusted through the School Act with authority to establish codes of conduct. While recognizing the autonomy of these bodies and acknowledging the efforts they have already undertaken to ensure school climates are as positive as possible, the provincial standards described below are provided to assist them in developing consistent and coherent policies and practices in their communities. Students are responsible for respecting the rights and dignity of others in learning environments free from discrimination as set out in the B.C. Human Rights’ Code (issues related to gender, race, religion, and sexual orientation) and becoming actively and productively involved in their own academic learning and social growth. Although most schools have codes of conduct in place, it is expected that all British Columbia schools will revisit existing codes and/or develop new codes of conduct reflecting the provincial standards. (Safe, Caring and Orderly Guide, page 15)

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the Code of Conduct is to establish and maintain a safe, caring and orderly environment for purposeful learning at Bradner Elementary School. All students, who we believe have primary responsibility for their actions, are expected to follow the Code of Conduct. We encourage, teach, and model self-control and self-discipline.

Student Responsibilities

The following guidelines will help to ensure that all members of the Bradner community are able to learn, share ideas and be heard.

1. Each individual at Bradner Elementary has the right to enjoy a safe and nurturing learning environment. It is the responsibility of each member of the community to maintain that safe environment.
2. Each individual at Bradner Elementary has the right to be respected. Each individual has the responsibility to respect themselves and others.
3. Each individual at Bradner Elementary has the right to a safe and clean environment. Each individual has the responsibility to respect both school and personal property.

Conduct Expectations

1. Students at Bradner must exhibit:

S. afety

M. anners

A. ttitude

R. esponsibility

T. houghtfulness

1. Students are reminded that any teacher or staff member in the school has the responsibility to correct inappropriate behaviour.
2. Students will follow the classroom rules established by the teacher, with the students, for that classroom.
3. Wherever possible, students are encouraged and expected to speak up and solve issues of conflict themselves. When another student says or does something to them (or another student) that is not right, students are expected to say “stop”. If the other student does not stop, then the student is expected to go and tell an adult.

Acceptable Conduct: Acceptable Conduct is conduct that:

- respects self, others and the school
- helps to make the school a safe, caring and orderly place
- informs a ‘tellable’ adult, in a timely manner, of incidents of bullying, harassment and/or intimidation
- engages in purposeful learning activities in a timely manner
- acts in a manner that brings credit to the school.

Unacceptable Conduct: Unacceptable conduct can include the following, but this is not an all-inclusive list of unacceptable behaviours. Unacceptable behaviours include:

- behaviours that:
 - interfere with the learning of others
 - interfere with an orderly environment
 - create an unsafe environment
- acts of:
 - bullying, harassment and/or intimidation
 - physical violence
 - retribution against a person who has reported incidents
- illegal acts, such as:
 - possession, use or distribution of illegal or restricted substances
 - possession or use of weapons
 - theft of, or damage to property

Rising Expectations: At Bradner Elementary School, we believe that as children become older, more mature and move through the successive grades, we expect increasing responsibility and self-discipline from them. Consequences for inappropriate behaviour will increase with age.

Consequences

Minor Offences

These will be handled “on the spot” by any staff member. Students will be made aware of how their actions were inappropriate and discuss how a better choice could have been made.

Major Offences

Major offences fall into two categories:

1. Conduct which interferes with or threatens the orderly functioning of the school or adversely affects the well-being of others.
2. Conduct injurious to the safety and/or dignity of students or staff.

Some examples of major offences are: physical abuse, open opposition to authority, stealing, vandalism, and continuous disruptive behaviour.

The severity and frequency of unacceptable conduct as well as the age and maturity of students is considered in determining appropriate disciplinary action.

- responses to unacceptable conduct are pre planned, consistent and fair
- disciplinary action, wherever possible, is preventative and follows the principles of Restorative Action
- students, as often as possible, are encouraged to participate in the development of meaningful consequences for violations in the code of conduct
- for major offences consequences may involve one of the following:
 - in school suspensions
 - Out of School suspensions
 - An internal Board of Review

Notification

Most issues arising from classroom behaviour are handled by the classroom teacher. Issues are referred to the principal after consultation with the parent has not succeeded in altering the behaviour. The principal will advise parties of serious or continuous breaches of the code of conduct. For example:

- parents of student offenders - in every instance
- parents of the student victim - in every instance
- school district officials - as required by School Board Policy
- police and/or other agencies - as required by law
- all parents - when deemed to be important to reassure members of the school community that school officials are aware of a serious situation or incident and are taking appropriate action to address it.

Communication

- District Code of Conduct/School Code of Conduct will be communicated to all students at beginning of school year and during school assemblies
- District Code of Conduct/School Code of Conduct will be distributed to all parents for review
- School Code of Conduct will be put on school website