



The School Code of Conduct

Each school has created a Code of Conduct that provides guidelines for student behaviour. Typically, the Code of Conduct is designed to encourage peaceful ways of interacting, respect for others, and problem-solving techniques so as to foster a safe and welcoming environment.

The Code of Conduct helps schools become places free of abuse, bullying, harassment, discrimination, intimidation, hateful words and actions and all other forms of aggression and violence.

The school and teacher will develop guidelines and rules to help students follow the Code of Conduct. These rules are explained to students and are usually posted publicly on a wall in the school and on the school website or calendar. Parents may request a copy of the Code of Conduct.

Everyone who is part of the school community, and participates in a school-related activity, including students, parents or guardians, volunteers, teachers and other staff members or SWIS workers, is expected to follow the Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct applies even when the activity is not on school property (but is school-related).

The following strategies can help you and your children support and respect the school's Code of Conduct:

- **Asking for a copy of the school's Code of Conduct and reviewing it with your children.**
- Discussing with your children that there are serious consequences for fighting, name-calling or harassment and other forms of inappropriate behaviour.
- Discussing with your children the importance of respect for everyone's basic rights, their own and others. This includes the right to live free of abuse and harassment (verbal, emotional, physical and sexual), as well as discrimination.

- Helping your children to develop an attitude of respect for differences among people, including differences based on ethnicity, culture, religion, colour, age, disability, sex, gender (including gender identity) and sexual orientation.
- Letting them know that if anyone's rights are violated, then everyone is at risk to experience abuse or discrimination.
- Speaking to your children's teacher, or the principal, if you feel that the Code of Conduct or school rules are unfair to your children.
- Telling the teacher that you want to be informed if she or he has a concern about your children's behaviour.
- Talking to the teacher if you are concerned about another student's behaviour.

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References:

[Ontario Ministry of Education](#)
[Parent's Guide to the Ontario Code of Conduct](#)