



Langley Meadows Community School Code of Conduct

In accordance with Provincial guidelines, schools are expected to develop, review and share their Code of Conduct with students, parents and staff. The code contains the general school rules and discipline practices, which reflect the school and District's expectations for students. These rules will be consistent with the Langley School District Code of Conduct, the District Graduate Profile and related policies.

The School District has policies relating to serious offences such as the use of weapons, drugs and alcohol possession, discrimination, harassment, bullying, etc. We adhere to these policies. In addition Langley Meadows Community School has expectations and standards that we require of our students.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

"Attitude determines altitude." All students have the right to learn. To do this, each student is supported by a school climate that is satisfying and productive. Our purpose is to create an environment where everyone can focus on student learning. Parents and staff share the responsibility for teaching appropriate acceptable behaviour and self-discipline.

CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS:

Our discipline policy is based on the belief that everyone should respect himself/herself, other people and other people's property. All decisions regarding behaviour are guided by principles of common sense and safety. At Langley Meadows, we work to understand, care and respect each other. Students understand that they are responsible for their own behaviour. Students have a responsibility to respect the rights and dignity of others and to become actively and productively involved in their own academic learning and social growth. We encourage parents to support these expectations and to support the school in logical consequences when students choose not to follow the expectations.

Expectations apply to behaviour both on school premises and off school premises where the activities are organized or sponsored by the school. It can also include behaviour during activities that will have an impact on the school environment. The school's jurisdiction may include:

- Classrooms/ school building
- school property /playgrounds & fields
- school buses and private cars
- to and from school
- regular school hours
- outside regular hours
- the misuse of technology (e-mail, social networking, cell-phones, cameras, MP3)
- any school sponsored activity and/or field-trip

As well as anyone whose conduct at any time or place has a direct and immediate effect on maintaining order, discipline, safety and the learning environment in the school.

Increasing Expectations: Expectations for students increase as they move through the grades, until grade five when students are introduced to the school as leaders. There is an expectation that they will be good role models and available to assist younger students with problem solving. Their responsibilities increase, as well as their freedoms.

STUDENT DEVELOPED RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Students will be treated with respect, while they will also be respectful to staff and their peers as well.
- Students know what bullying looks like and agree that it will not be tolerated. (This includes racist or intimidating behavior)
- Foul language (swearing, aggressive, hurtful, put-downs, gestures) are not tolerated.
- Respect for the environment and the school (includes marking up desks, graffiti, writing in textbooks, littering, etc.)
- Hands and feet to yourself (horseplay, fighting, roughhousing, inappropriate hugging, etc.)
- Electronics to stay at home (i-pods, Mp3, cameras)
- Cell-phones need to be turned off the whole day and put away in a back-pack, the school is **NOT** responsible if they are lost or stolen, students may not use them at lunch or recess.
- Once at school students cannot leave the premises without permission.
- Students will dress for success, no underwear showing, no inappropriate logos, no short shorts or skirts, low tops are not appropriate for school. Hats (boys and girls) can be worn outside but not inside. Students should wear appropriate footwear for school activities
- Walk wheels on school grounds and wear a helmet
- Hats or hoods are not worn in the building
- Set an example on the playground, stay safe on the equipment, rocks and sticks belong on the ground.

Langley Meadows Community School also collaboratively developed the following expectations:

Punctuality: Students are expected to be on time for all classes. If late in the morning or when returning from lunch, they need to report to the office.

Entering/Exiting: Students enter and exit the school using the outside classroom door unless escorted by an adult. All students should be dismissed through the rear classroom exit. Early entrance (through the outside class door) may only occur with the teacher's permission and when the teacher provides direct supervision. Crossing guards may use the front doors both before and after school.

Hallways: Walk in the hallways. Noise should be kept to a minimum. Classes are expected to travel in single file and down the middle of the hall. When passing, please stay to the right.

Recess/Noon/Before/After School: All students are expected to be outside unless they have a note from home. No students may remain in classes unsupervised. Those students who are going home for lunch require written permission. Forms are available in the office for students to go home for lunch.

Leaving school grounds: No student may leave the school grounds without permission. Students crossing Willoughby Way should do so at a designated crosswalk where they are expected to follow the directions given to them by the crossing guards.

Inside days: On "in" days, students are asked to find a quiet activity/game in their classroom and remain there for the duration of the period. Students in the portables are directed to either the library, gym or computer lab where they can be safely supervised.

Playground: School and playground equipment are to be used appropriately. There is no jumping from swings. Climbing only occurs on climbing equipment (i.e. not fences, backstops, supports, stairs, etc.) Students are expected to keep their hands and feet to themselves (Tag games and touch football would be exceptions to this).

Assemblies: Students enter and leave quietly. Appropriate audience behaviour is expected.

General Etiquette: Students are expected to remove all hats on entering school. No gum is to be brought to or chewed at school or at any school function. Students are expected to sit down to eat their lunches. There should be no food in the hallways or washrooms.

Respect: Students are expected to treat others with respect. Students are expected to treat the property of others with respect. Students will use appropriate language and body language (no gestures or intimidation) at all times. Students will respectfully follow directions given to them by staff regarding school procedures.

Personal Property: Personal property may only be brought to school when requested by the teacher (i.e. for show and tell, news, study purposes). Younger students are encouraged to leave toys at home.

- Electronics should not be brought to school, however if older students bring i-phones, cell phones, blackberries, etc. they are to be turned **off** and put away out of sight in a back-pack.
- Cameras cannot be brought to school because it could compromise the safety of some of our students and violate their privacy rights.
- Cell phones can be used after the student has been dismissed.
- Students are not permitted to text **at any time during school hours.**
- Cell phones will be handed into the office if a student uses a cell phone at an inappropriate time.
- Individual teachers may choose to "collect" cell phones in the morning and lock them up until the end of the day.
- It is the Student's responsibility if an item is stolen, lost or damaged.

Student Telephone Use: As the school has limited phone lines, students may only use the school phone in an emergency, not to make after school plans with friends. They must have a phone pass from their teacher prior to coming to the office.

Bikes: Students are to wear helmets and use a bike lock. No riding is permitted on the school grounds. All wheels need to be "walked." This includes wheelie shoes, skateboards, long boards, scooters, etc.

Desks/Cubbies: Desks and cubbies are not the private property of students but are the property of the school district and subject to inspection.

Environment: It is everyone's responsibility to keep in and outside areas clean and tidy. Individual teachers will develop their own plans for classroom routines.

CONSEQUENCES:

Such factors as frequency and severity of the infraction and previous infractions are taken into account when determining reasonable consequences. The age of the student, as well as impact on others, and the student's ability to understand the impact, are also important factors. A process of progressive discipline will be followed as well as restorative procedures. Consequences may include:

- time out and/or warnings
- alternate classroom
- loss of privilege (at recess or lunch)
- written assignment
- apology letter
- confiscation of items
- parent phone calls or meetings
- suspended from class
- in-school suspension
- community service (supervised weeding, clean up, etc.)
- suspended from school
- alternate school hours

NOTIFICATION:

The teacher usually deals with issues that arise in the classroom. There may be times when the teachers feel the administration needs to be involved. If the administration feels that a serious breach of the Code of conduct has occurred, students' parent (or other parties as deemed necessary or by law) will be informed of the incident and the consequences. For serious consequences, an appeal process to the District is in place. For information about this process, please contact the Principal. Parents will be notified by the school for repeated or serious offences. In addition, for some offenses the school may have the responsibility to notify a third party (e.g. RCMP for the restorative justice program or for a criminal offense).

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any further questions about this topic.