

# **Nakusp Secondary School**

## **Code of Conduct**

### **2023 - 2024**

The **Nakusp Secondary School Community**, which includes staff, parents and students, has the responsibility to provide and ensure a safe, orderly and positive climate for learning. Our Code of Conduct supports socially responsible behaviour, and provides a broad framework of expectations for students. It is expected that all members of the school community will uphold the underlying principles of the school's Code of Conduct which include respect for self, others, property and the environment.

Nakusp Secondary School is committed to establishing and maintaining a safe, inclusive, equitable and welcoming environment for all members of the school community. NSS upholds and promotes the BC Human Rights Code, respecting the rights of all of those in accordance with the law.

The Code of Conduct shall apply to all students during school-organized or sponsored activities, on school buses, and in other circumstances where engaging in the activity will have impact on the school community. School rules apply even when functions occur off school grounds or outside of the regular school day. Students are reminded the Code of Conduct applies from the time they leave home before school until the time they arrive home after school.

The Code of Conduct recognizes that as children grow and mature, they are better able to make appropriate decisions and to be responsible for their actions.

#### **Statement of Purpose**

Nakusp Secondary School's Code of Conduct is created to provide guiding principles of conduct for all students enrolled in the school and in accordance with the Section 6 (1) (a) and (b) of the School Act which states:

6(1) A student must comply

- (a) with the school rules authorized by the principal of the school or Provincial school attended by the student, and
- (b) with the code of conduct and other rules and policies of the board or the Provincial school.

The purpose of the Code of Conduct is to:

- Provide and maintain a safe, caring, and orderly environments for purposeful learning
- Establish and maintain appropriate balances among individual and collective rights, freedoms, and responsibilities
- Communicate the expectations of student behaviour to all members of the school community

## **Conduct Expectations**

**Acceptable Conduct supports a positive learning environment.**

It is expected that students will:

- Respect themselves, other people and other people's belongings
- Respect the school and its belongings
- Act in a manner that models positive behaviours in the school and community
- Attend school and classes regularly and punctually
- Dress appropriately for a learning, working environment (including proper footwear)
- Help to make the school a safe, caring and orderly place
- Be prepared to engage in purposeful learning activities
- Behave in an ethical and lawful manner
- Take responsibility meeting expectations and deadlines
- To have increasing personal responsibility and self-discipline as you move from grade to grade
- Inform an adult, in a timely manner, of incidents of bullying, harassment or intimidation
- Be considerate of other people's allergies

**Unacceptable Conduct interferes with a positive learning environment**

Some examples of unacceptable behaviours include:

- Any behaviour that interferes with the learning of others
- The use of inappropriate or abusive language
- Creating a negative tone and interfering with an orderly environment
- Threatening, harassing, intimidating, assaulting or bullying (including cyberbullying) in any way
- Possessing weapons or dangerous articles
- Possession, use, or distribution of illegal or restrictive substances
- Theft of or damage to property
- Any efforts to cause harm or discriminate against another person based on, but not limited to, race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, gender, physical or intellectual disability, marital or family status, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, and/or gender expressions (LGBT2QIA+), or for any other reason set out in the Human Rights Code of British Columbia
- Publishing or displaying anything that would indicate an intention to discriminate against another, or expose them to contempt or ridicule on the basis of any such grounds
- Acts of retribution toward a person who has reported incidents

## **Rising Expectations**

The Code of Conduct recognizes that as children grow and mature, they are better able to make appropriate decisions and be responsible for their actions. As students progress through the school, they are expected to:

- Acquire great knowledge and understanding about their personal behaviour and how it impacts others
- Learn and utilize appropriate decision-making strategies
- Demonstrate increasing self-discipline
- Take increased personal responsibility for their actions and learning
- Be subject to increasing consequences for inappropriate behaviour

## **Consequences**

When determining consequences, and in compliance with Arrow Lakes School District policies #310 Expectations for Student Conduct, consideration is given to the maturity as well as the intellectual, social and emotional capacity of the student along with the severity and frequency of the misbehaviour.

Consequences should follow District procedures and will:

- Be thoughtful, consistent and fair
- Seek to prevent recurrence of the offense
- Teach acceptable social behaviour rather than be merely punitive
- Provide means for restitution and restorative action where appropriate
- Involve the offender in determining a corrective plan of action where appropriate

## **Notification**

School staff may, depending on the severity and frequency of unacceptable conduct:

- Give students chances to improve their conduct
- Have students inform parents directly about instances of unacceptable conduct
- Contact and inform parents directly about a student's unacceptable conduct
- Inform the parents of students who have been the victims of unacceptable conduct
- Inform school district officials as required by district policies
- Contact police and other agencies as required by law
- Alert school staff, parents, and students of serious situations or incidents as appropriate, and inform the school community of the actions taken to address these situations.

The school encourages parents to communicate openly with the school and in a timely manner.