

# Brooks Secondary

## Code of Conduct

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Brooks Secondary School has the responsibility to provide and ensure a safe and positive climate for learning. The Code of Conduct provides a broad framework of behavioural expectations for students. It is expected that all members of the school community will uphold the underlying principles of the school code which include respect for self, others, property, and the environment.

The Code of Conduct shall apply to all students during any school activity and holds students responsible for their conduct on the way to and from school or at a school activity.

Conduct by any student that adversely affects a school climate or operation, including disruption of the learning environment, shall be considered a breach of the Code of Conduct, warranting appropriate forms of intervention.

### Statement of Purpose

The Purpose of the Code of Conduct is to:

- Provide and maintain a safe, caring, and orderly environment for students to develop to their full potential
- Ensure that the rights and responsibilities of individuals are appropriately balanced to uphold the collective well-being of all
- 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:

- Conduct themselves in an appropriate manner when going to and from school, within school, on school grounds, during extended school activities, online, and on school buses
- Apply themselves to the best of their ability in all aspects of their education
- Attend school and classes regularly, punctually, and properly prepared
- Be respectful of the thoughts, feelings, privacy and heritage of others
- Respect the rights and property of others, the school, and the environment
- Dress in a manner which reflects purpose and propriety
- Contribute positively to a safe, caring and orderly school
- Behave in an ethical and lawful manner
- Report to a responsible adult, incidents of threats, bullying, harassment, violence or intimidation
- Use district-owned and personal electronic devices in a courteous, responsible and ethical manner.

**Unacceptable Conduct** interferes with a positive learning environment. Some examples of unacceptable behaviours include:

- Interference with the learning of others
- Use of inappropriate or abusive language
- Threatening, harassing, intimidating, assaulting or bullying, in any way, any person within the school community
- Possessing weapons or dangerous articles
- Possession, use, or distribution of illegal or restricted substances
- Theft of or damage to property
- Any efforts to cause harm or against another person based on, but not limited to, race, religion, gender, physical or intellectual disability, sexual orientation or age
- Gang-related behaviours
- Any efforts to cause harm or discrimination against another person based on, but not limited to race, religion, gender, physical or intellectual disability, marital or family status, sexual orientation or age

- Acts of retaliation against a person who has reported incidents where the code of conduct has been broken
- All provisions of the Human Rights Code
- Use of district-owned or personal electronic devices or technology to engage in any of the above, especially if it has impact on the school environment or the well-being of others.

### Rising Expectations

The Code of Conduct recognizes that as children grow and mature, they are more able to make appropriate decisions and to be responsible for their actions. Consideration is given to the age and maturity as well as the intellectual, social, and emotional capacity of the student along with the nature and frequency of the unacceptable behaviour.

As students progress through school, they are expected to:

- Acquire greater knowledge and understanding about their personal behaviour and its impact on others
- Learn and utilize appropriate decision-making strategies
- Demonstrate increasing self-discipline
- Take increasing personal responsibility for their actions and learning
- Be subject to increasing consequences for inappropriate behavior.

### Consequences

Consideration is given to the age and the maturity as well as the intellectual, social and emotional capacity of the student along with the severity and frequency of the misbehaviour.

Consequences will, where appropriate:

- Be thoughtful, consistent, and fair
- Seek to prevent a recurrence of the offense
- Teach acceptable social behaviour rather than be merely punitive

And additionally, where appropriate:

- Provide means for restitution and restorative actions
- Involve the offender in determining a corrective plan of action.

### Notification

It is understood that communication is essential to the home and school partnership. Notification will be given to the school's community of the school's Code of Conduct.

As well, notice will be given to the parents and students of Brooks Secondary School of the range of responses that schools may apply to breaches of the Code of Conduct including threat-making behaviours.

Therefore, for breaches of the Code of Conduct, notification may occur as needed:

- Parents of student in breach of the Code of Conduct
- Parents of student victim(s)
- School and District personnel – where appropriate
- Police and/or other agencies – where deemed appropriate or where required by law
- All parents of the school community – when deemed important to reassure members of the school community that school and district officials are aware of a serious situation or incident and are taking appropriate action to address it
- When the breach of the Code of Conduct is criminal in nature, police will be consulted prior to public notification.

*The Human Rights Code states discrimination occurs when someone is treated differently and poorly because of their race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital or family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, age, criminal conviction, political belief or lawful source of income.*