

Alwin Holland Elementary School - Code of Conduct

At Alwin Holland Elementary School, all community members have the responsibility to provide and ensure a safe, caring and orderly environment for learning. It is expected that all members of the AH community, which includes staff, students, parents and guardians, will uphold the underlying principles of our Code of Conduct. Members of the AH community are expected to display safe, responsible and respectful behaviour.

The Alwin Holland School Code of Conduct was developed to provide guiding principles of conduct for our students. The School Act 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. Our Code of Conduct shall apply to all students during any school activity at the school, in the community, and in transit to and from an activity. It also holds students responsible for their conduct off school grounds if it impacts the school environment.

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. 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

Conduct Expectations - Rights and Responsibilities

All AH community members have the right to live, learn and work in an atmosphere of mutual respect and courtesy.

Community members have the responsibility to show respect for themselves, students, staff, parents, guardians, visitors, and guests. Community members are also expected to respect school property and the personal property of other members. Community members are expected to behave in an ethical and lawful manner, contributing positively to a safe, caring, and orderly school.

All AH community members have the right to be safe and secure from threatening, abusive and violent behaviours, intimidation, bullying, cyberbullying, and discrimination or harassment on the basis of appearance, capacity, physical or mental disability, race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, sex, real or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age or any other reason. Members also have the right to be safe from retribution.

Community members have the responsibility to avoid participating in or encouraging any of these acts, either in word or action, in person or electronically, or by wearing or carrying articles promoting these acts. Community members are obligated to report incidents of violent behaviour, intimidation, bullying, discrimination, harassment, and retribution to a responsible adult. Community members need to seek means other than physical confrontation when dealing with conflict.

All AH community members have the right to a workspace free of distractions like foul language, disrespectful behaviour, excessive noise, garbage, graffiti, and inappropriate clothing.

Community members have the responsibility to avoid the use of profanity, to follow directions and use manners, to speak and walk quietly, to use garbage and recycling cans, to not deface school property, and to wear appropriate clothing.

All AH community members have the right to learn in an effective and efficient environment free of unnecessary interruptions and delays, including distractions caused by the misuse of electronic devices. *Community members have the responsibility to attend school regularly, to arrive on time, to bring all materials, to give their best effort, and to not obstruct the learning of others with immature or inappropriate behaviour. School and classroom expectations for the appropriate use of technology must be followed.*

All AH community members have the right to a safe, healthy, smoke and drug/alcohol free workspace. *Community members have the responsibility to not use, be under the influence of, carry or possess illegal or inappropriate substances including weapons or dangerous articles anywhere while on or around school property or school activities. Clothing and other personal articles may not promote the use of illegal substances or prohibited items.*

Acceptable and unacceptable behaviours include but are not limited to those listed above. Specific expectations are identified in the Positive Behaviour Matrix.

Consequences

Consideration will be given to the maturity level and intellectual, social and emotional capacity of the student. As students become older they are expected to display increased responsibility, accountability and self-discipline. Consequences will be progressive and increase in severity for repeated offences.

Wherever possible, consequences will:

- Be appropriate and fair
- Seek to prevent a recurrence of the offence
- Be preventative and restorative rather than punitive
- Involve the offender in determining a corrective plan of action

Notification

As circumstances warrant, school officials have a responsibility to advise other parties of serious breaches of the Code of Conduct. With serious breaches, parents or guardians of the offender and victim will be notified.

Where appropriate or required by policy or law, the school district, the police, or other agencies may be notified. The school community may also be notified depending on the nature and severity of the incident. In serious and criminal situations, the school community will be notified, with assistance from district officials and the police.

The Alwin Holland Elementary School Code of Conduct has been structured to align with and adhere to the standards outlined in:

School District #60 Code of Conduct

School District #60 Discrimination, Assault, Bullying and Harassment Policy

The School Act - Provincial Standards for Codes of Conduct Order

BC Human Rights Code - Sections 7 & 8

BC Ministry of Education: Safe, Caring and Orderly Schools - Section 2