

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

School Code of Conduct

Purpose

At Swift Elementary we want students to feel safe and secure both physically and emotionally. Through shared responsibility involving the home, the school and the community, we strive to provide a safe, orderly and positive environment where all students can learn. Students are responsible for respecting the rights and dignity of others in learning environments free from discrimination as set out in the B.C. Human Rights' Code and for becoming actively and productively involved in their own academic learning and social growth.

It is expected that students will conform to high standards of behaviour when at school, on their way to and from school, and while attending any school function or field trip. Students are also expected to demonstrate high standards of work habits, arriving to school and class on time, with the necessary supplies and materials, as well as completing all in-school and homework assignments. Each student has the right to learn; each teacher has the right to teach without interruption.

Unacceptable behaviours include behaviours that interfere with the learning of others, acts of bullying, harassment or intimidation, and illegal acts such as possession or use of illegal substances, possession or use of weapons, and theft of or damage to school property.

In summary, students are expected to be co-operative, responsible, and do the best that they can, at all times. They are to treat others the way that they would like to be treated. To this end, the following code of conduct has been developed to guide student behaviour and articulate expectations in a concise format.

At Swift, students are expected to demonstrate the following principles:

- **a respect for learning,**
- **a respect for themselves and others, and**
- **a respect for the environment**

Consequences

The development of self-discipline is a very important goal at our school. The aim of a consequence for misbehaviour is for students to learn something from their experience. Consequences will be logical, realistic, and consistent, with each case of misbehaviour being dealt with on an individual basis. These progressive consequences may range from a discussion, or an office referral, to a suspension from school. Minor discipline issues will be handled on the spot in the classrooms, hallways, or playground by the supervising adult. Students will always be given the benefit of the doubt in making good decisions for themselves. As students mature and become more independent learners, these expectations progress and rise to match their development.

School staff have a responsibility to inform other parties of a serious or reoccurring breach of conduct. For example:

- parents of the student who violates the code of conduct,
- parents of the victim student,
- school district officials as required by board policy,
- police and other agencies as required by law,
- all parents in a situation deemed by the Principal to be important to reassure members of the school community that school officials are aware of the seriousness of the situation and are taking appropriate action to address it.