



## McLeod Elementary School “A Community with a Passion for Learning”

### Student Code of Conduct

**I. Guiding Legislation** According to the School Act of British Columbia, Section 85 (2) (c), the school board may establish rules for a student code of conduct, subject to this Act and regulations.

**II. Purpose** At McLeod Elementary School, we uphold the values of the BC Human Rights Code, respecting the rights of all individuals and prohibiting discrimination based on race, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, or any other grounds specified in the Code. Our goal is to maintain a safe, caring, and orderly learning environment. We focus on guiding, preventing, and restoring rather than punishing. We expect students to be cooperative, courteous, and respectful.

**III. Expectations for Parents/Guardians** Parents and guardians play a crucial role in reinforcing the school's expectations and supporting a productive learning environment. Please:

1. Read, understand, and discuss this code of conduct with your child.
2. Ensure your child wears appropriate clothing for outdoor play, as they will be outside on most days.
3. Advise against bringing toys to school unless needed for a class activity.
4. Respond promptly to requests for assistance with discipline issues, including attending meetings if required.
5. Encourage your child to complete homework and monitor their progress.
6. Notify the school promptly if your child will be absent or late.

**IV. Student Conduct Expectations** To ensure a successful learning experience and avoid disrupting others, students must behave appropriately at school, at school functions, and on the bus. Expectations will be communicated clearly and reviewed regularly. While not all behaviors are listed, the following are examples:

#### Acceptable Conduct:

- **Be Responsible:** Complete your work, own your mistakes, and seek help as needed.
- **Be Respectful:** Treat yourself, others, and the school with respect.
- **Be Reasonable:** Think before you act.
- **Be Ready:** Be prepared to learn and to participate in activities.
- **Act Safely:** Ensure the safety of yourself and others.

#### Unacceptable Conduct:

- **Violence or Unsafe Behavior:** Includes retribution against those who report incidents.
- **Bullying or Harassment:** Includes cyberbullying, threats, and social isolation.
- **Inappropriate Language:** Avoid using offensive or derogatory language.
- **Interfering with Others' Learning:** Disrupting others' emotional well-being.
- **Truancy:** Unauthorized absences from school.
- **Theft or Property Damage:** Stealing or damaging school or personal property.



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- **Substance Abuse:** Possession, use, or distribution of illegal or restricted substances.
- **Weapon Possession:** Including any items used as weapons.
- **Misuse of Technology:** Inappropriate use of computers, cell phones, or other electronics.

*Note:* Expectations will increase with age and maturity. Special considerations apply for students with disabilities.

### V. Consequences for Unacceptable Conduct

1. Students will be involved in developing meaningful consequences for their actions. Consequences should logically relate to the infraction (e.g., littering could lead to clean-up duties).
2. For classroom disruptions, the teacher will address the behavior, inform the principal, and communicate with parents.
3. Persistent issues will be referred to the principal, who will collaborate with teachers to determine appropriate consequences. Restorative practices will be used whenever possible, ensuring fair treatment for all students.
4. Consequences may include:
  - Verbal warning and temporary device confiscation.
  - Detention, written reflection, or problem-solving tasks.
  - Conflict resolution or restorative justice processes.
  - Removal of privileges or schoolwork duties.
  - In-school or out-of-school suspension, as appropriate.
  - Referral to the School Board for extended suspensions.
5. Consideration will be given to the severity and frequency of the behavior, as well as the student’s age and needs.
6. Serious or repeated issues will require a meeting with parents to create an action plan for improvement. Immediate consequences may be applied for severe infractions.

**VI. Notification** The principal (or teacher-in-charge) will inform relevant parties of serious breaches, including:

- Student and their parents.
- Parents of other involved students.
- School district officials, if required.
- Police or other agencies, as necessary.
- The wider school community, if important for reassurance.

*Note:* The school will take steps to prevent retaliation against anyone who reports a breach.



## McLeod Elementary School “A Community with a Passion for Learning”

**Digital Device Policy for the 2024-2025 School Year** Effective July 1, 2024, in alignment with updated provincial standards:

- Students must not use personal electronic devices (e.g., cell phones, tablets) on school grounds from arrival until departure.

**Cell Phone and Technology Policy Introduction:** McLeod Elementary aims to create a focused learning environment. This policy aligns with Ministry of Education recommendations to minimize distractions.

### Policy Details:

1. **Cell Phone Use:**
  - **Turned Off:** Phones must be off from the first to the final bell.
  - **Storage:** Phones must be stored in designated areas during class.
  - **Breaks:** No phone use during breaks. Emergencies will be handled by staff.
2. **Consequences:**
  - **First Offense:** Verbal warning and temporary confiscation.
  - **Subsequent Offenses:** Detention or loss of privileges; parents may need to retrieve the device.
  - **Repeated Violations:** Parent meeting to address ongoing concerns.
3. **Communication:** Parents should contact the school office rather than their child directly during school hours.
4. **Responsibility:**
  - **Students:** Must comply with the policy and use technology respectfully.
  - **Parents/Guardians:** Reinforce the policy at home.
  - **School District #59:** Not responsible for lost devices.
5. **Implementation and Review:** The policy will be in effect from September 1, 2024, with regular reviews for effectiveness.



## McLeod Elementary School “A Community with a Passion for Learning”

**Dress Code Purpose:** To foster a focused and respectful learning environment by promoting safety and modesty while respecting diversity.

### General Guidelines:

1. **Appropriateness:** Clothing should be suitable for a school setting and not promote illegal or inappropriate activities.
2. **Modesty:** Ensure clothing covers undergarments and midriffs.
3. **Safety:** Wear appropriate, safe footwear. Remove outside shoes for indoor use.
4. **Advertisements:** Prohibit offensive or inappropriate advertising.
5. **Accessories:** Allowed outside instructional time but may be restricted indoors.

### Specific Guidelines:

- **Tops:** Must cover abdomen (midsection) and not reveal undergarments.
- **Bottoms:** Shorts and skirts should be appropriate in length; leggings allowed with suitable tops.
- **Footwear:** Closed-toe shoes are recommended.

### Enforcement:

- Students may be asked to change or call home for appropriate clothing. Repeated violations may lead to disciplinary action.

### Exceptions:

- Special events or theme days may allow dress code deviations with school approval.

### Parental Cooperation:

- Support the dress code by ensuring appropriate attire and contact the school with any concerns.

**Conclusion:** Adhering to the dress code contributes to a respectful and safe learning environment. The policy will be reviewed periodically for relevance and effectiveness.

**Approved By:** Joanne Dueck (Principal), McLeod teaching staff, and PAC representative.  
Effective from September 1, 2024.