

## GRAY ELEMENTARY CODE OF CONDUCT

The Gray Elementary School Community, which includes staff, parents and students, has the responsibility to provide and ensure a safe and positive climate for learning. The school's Code of Conduct is based upon the Delta School District's Code of Conduct, and 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 District and School codes which include respect for self, others, property, and the environment.

The Code of Conduct shall apply to all students during any school activity and may hold 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. 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.

### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Gray's Code of Conduct is created to provide guiding principles of conduct for all students enrolled in the school and is in accordance with 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 as referenced in Delta School District Policy #1131, Student Conduct and Discipline, 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 and on school buses
- Apply themselves to the best of their ability in all aspects of their education
- Attend school and classes regularly and punctually
- Be respectful of the thoughts, feelings and heritage of others

- Respect the rights and property of others
- 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

**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 to another person based on, but not limited to race, religion, gender, physical or intellectual disability, sexual orientation or age.
- Gang related behaviours
- Acts of retribution toward a person who has reported incidents

### **RISING EXPECTATIONS**

Gray's 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 behaviour

### **CONSEQUENCES**

When determining consequences, and in compliance with Delta School District Procedure #1131.1, 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 where appropriate, follow District procedures and will:

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

And 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 within each 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 follows:

- 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

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## **BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS AT GRAY (APPLICATION OF OUR CODE OF CONDUCT)**

At Gray we believe that a safe, caring, and orderly school provides the necessary climate for maximum student achievement. Therefore we follow a proactive, preventative school-wide program of teaching and reinforcing the behaviours we want students to demonstrate.

This includes:

- Setting clear expectations for student behaviour
- Communicating expectations to students and parents
- Teaching students to make responsible choices for behaviour
- Holding students accountable for their behaviour choices
- Applying consistent, fair, and firm consequences for inappropriate behaviour
- Recognizing positive behaviour choices

## **RULES THAT PROMOTE SAFETY AND RESPECT AT GRAY IN THE SCHOOL**

- Keep your hands and feet to yourself
- Use polite language
- Take care of school property
- Walk quietly in the hallways
- Enter and exit the school through your own pod door
- Keep valuables at home
- Remove hats after entering the school
- Leave gum at home
- Dress appropriately for school
- During “In Days,” work quietly on appropriate activities in your own classroom
- Use “Restaurant Manners” when eating your lunch in your classroom

## **ON THE GROUNDS**

- Keep your hands and feet to yourself
- Use polite language
- Place all litter in the garbage cans
- Stay away from the driveway and parking lot
- Walk your “Wheels”
- Take care of the equipment
- Share the equipment
- Play safely - “Keep your head up, Keep your eyes open, and Stand back!”

Our **Gray Guidelines of Respect** form the basis for our behaviour expectations for students.

### **RESPECT YOURSELF**

- BE SAFE
- DO YOUR BEST

### **RESPECT OTHERS**

- BE KIND
- SOLVE PROBLEMS PEACEFULLY

### **RESPECT PROPERTY**

- BE RESPONSIBLE
- TAKE CARE OF THINGS

### **RESPECT THE ENVIRONMENT**

- BE CONSIDERATE
- REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

## **DEALING WITH BEHAVIOUR CONCERNS**

Each case of misbehaviour will be dealt with individually. Generally, if a student chooses a behaviour that is inappropriate and/or unsafe, the supervising adult or staff member will speak with the child, making sure the student understands why the behaviour is unacceptable and a consequence may be selected. More serious or repeated infractions will result in an office referral, where the following progressive steps may be taken:

- Time to calm down
- Completion of a Behaviour Log Sheet which is sent home to parents
- Providing a service to the school
- Loss of privileges related to the behaviour
- Contact with parents
- Letter of warning to parents that suspension may occur if behaviour is repeated
- School suspension
- Suspension to the School Board

Consequences are intended to:

- be thoughtful, consistent and fair
- teach acceptable social behaviour rather than be merely punitive
- provide means for restitution or restorative action

Behaviour that is extremely unsafe or inappropriate will result in more immediate disciplinary action. These behaviours include:

- Threat-making behaviour;
- Fighting/aggressive behaviour;
- Willful damage to school property;
- Possession within the school environment of any potential weapon or any instrument intended to inflict injury or to intimidate another person;
- Refusal to follow the directions of an adult “In Charge”.

We invite parents to communicate with school personnel regarding any concerns you may have about student behaviour. By working together, we can help students learn to make positive choices about their behaviour.

### **RECOGNIZING POSITIVE BEHAVIOURS**

Because research shows that recognition of positive behaviour in students instills further positive behaviour and promotes self-esteem, we acknowledge good choices through:

- Individual words of encouragement
- Positive notes in student planners
- Telephone calls home

***Our goal is to create a safe, caring orderly school that maximizes learning.***