**PITT MEADOWS ELEMENTARY CODE OF CONDUCT**

At PME we believe that all students have the right to learn in a safe, caring and respectful environment. All children can be responsible and respectful. Home and school share the responsibility for teaching safety and respect.

The Code of Conduct applies to all members of the school community (at school, traveling to and from the school, at any school-related activity at any location, or any circumstance/activity that will have an impact on the school environment).

The following specific language regarding Respect for Human Rights is incorporated into all SD #42 School Codes of Conduct.

**Respect for Human Rights:**

In fostering a community of respect, inclusion, fairness and equity, we expect persons to not discriminate based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or age.

**The Human Rights Codes [RSBC 1996, c210]** will be respected:

**Excerpt from Section 7 Discriminatory publication**

**7** (1) A person must not publish, issue or display, or cause to be published, issued or displayed, any

statement, publication, notice, sign, symbol, emblem, or other representation that

(a) indicates discrimination or an intention to discriminate against a person, a group, or class of persons, or

(b) is likely to expose a person or a group or class of persons to hatred or contempt

**Excerpt from Section 8 Discrimination in accommodation, service, and facility**

**8 (**1)A person must not, without a bona fide and reasonable justification,

(a) deny to a person or class of persons any accommodation, service or facility customarily available to the public, or

(b) discriminate against a person or class of persons regarding any accommodation, service or facility customarily available to the public.

**Be Respectful: some examples include**

* Use your manners
* Treat others with respect
* Always do your best
* Take care of the school property and materials
* Dress appropriately

**Be Responsible: some examples include**

* Clean up after yourself
* Use good listening skills
* Be honest and tell the truth
* Be on time and ready to work

**Be Safe: some examples include**

* Walk calmly in the halls and classrooms
* Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself
* Stay in designated areas

**INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR:**

Certain behaviours will be considered unacceptable, including, but not limited to;

* Threatening behavior towards others (i.e. swearing, hurtful remarks, gossiping, inappropriate gestures) physical altercations of any kind
* continuous repetitive disruptive behavior
* defiance towards teaching staff
* theft, vandalism, or mistreatment of school or others personal property
* teasing and/or bullying, on or off school grounds, including telephone, computer and e-mail messages
* running in the halls

**RESPONSES TO CONDUCT ISSUES:**

* Responses to unacceptable conduct will be thoughtful, consistent and fair.
* The focus of any intervention will be preventative and restorative in nature, rather than merely punitive.
* Wherever possible, students will be encouraged to participate in the development of meaningful interventions through discussion and mediation.
* Decisions will be made with respect to the individual. Responses to conduct issues will take into consideration the student’s age, maturity and past conduct. Interventions will not discriminate against a student who cannot meet an expectation because of a disability.
* Reasonable steps will be taken to prevent retaliation against the person who reported a code of conduct issue.
* Every effort will be made to support students. However, if there are ongoing conduct issues after having implemented interventions, progressive discipline may include, but is not limited to, referral to an intervention committee, suspension, change of program, change of school, or involvement of the police when behaviour includes a criminal code violation.
* When responding to breaches in the Code of Conduct, school officials may inform a student’s parent(s), the parents of other students who were involved, school district officials, the police or other agencies or the parents of all students when the whole school community needs to be reassured that a serious situation is being addressed.

**INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR TYPICALLY HAS THE FOLLOWING CONSEQUENCES:**

* Teacher intervention
* Principal intervention
* Contact with parents (by telephone or email)
* Conferring with parents-teachers and/or principal
* Short-term or long-term suspension
* Consultation with police and or fire department

**SAFE & CARING SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTS:**

**ARE FREE FROM ACTS OF:**

* Bullying, cyber-bullying, harassment and marginalization
* Threat and intimidation
* Violence in any form
* Abuse in any form
* Discrimination in any form including race, colour, gender, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, ancestry or national origin.
* Retribution against a person who has reported incidents

**Or Misuse of**

* Cyberspace/cell phones/electronic devices/computers – students are to be aware that they may be subject to discipline (or, if applicable, confiscation of personal property) for misuse of technology if it negatively impacts on the school environment

Forms of Unacceptable conduct cited above are only examples and not an all-inclusive list.

**Do not tolerate the presence of:**

* Theft and vandalism
* Intoxicating or banned substances
* Weapons or replica (toy) weapons and explosives
* Intruders or trespassers – All visitors to the school must report to the office first.