

Lucerne Elementary Secondary School Code of Conduct 2024 - 2025

Our school is committed to providing exceptional educational experiences and inclusive learning environments to each of our students. We place a high priority on ensuring all students' mental and emotional wellness needs are met and, at the same time, provide the highest quality of learning experiences. Our team of teachers have plenty of professional development opportunities to enhance their own learning so that students are provided with differentiated learning and teaching. We are committed to making sure all our students meet with success to the best of their abilities.

Principles and Beliefs

We value respect for yourself, others and property.

We value the importance of being lifelong learners for staff, students and parents.

We value active living and healthy life choices.

We appreciate the uniqueness and differences of learnings which guide our instruction.

We strive for continuous improvement as a Professional Learning Community.

We believe hope is the seed of success – celebrate success!

The **Lucerne Elementary Secondary School Community**, which includes staff, parents and students, has the responsibility to provide and ensure a safe, orderly and positive climate for learning. Our Code of Conduct supports socially responsible behavior and provides a broad framework of expectations for students. It is expected that all members of the school community will uphold the underlying principles of the school's Code of Conduct which include respect for self, others, property and the environment.

Lucerne Elementary Secondary School is committed to establishing and maintaining a safe, inclusive, equitable and welcoming environment for all members of the school community.

The Code of Conduct shall apply to all students during school-organized or sponsored activities, on school buses, and in other circumstances where engaging in the activity will have impact on the school community. School rules apply even when functions occur off school grounds or outside of the regular school day. Students are reminded the Code of Conduct applies from the time they leave home before school until the time they arrive home after school. A student suspended from the bus would not be able to take a bus on a field trip.

Statement of Purpose

Lucerne Elementary Secondary School's Code of Conduct is created to provide guiding principles of conduct for all students enrolled in the school and in accordance with the 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 is to:

- Provide and maintain a safe, caring, and orderly environments for purposeful learning
- Establish and maintain appropriate balances among individual and collective rights, freedoms, and responsibilities
- Communicate the expectations of student behavior to all members of the school community

Conduct Expectations

Acceptable Conduct supports a positive learning environment.

It is expected that students will:

- Respect themselves, other people and other people's belongings
- Respect the school and its belongings
- Act in a manner that models positive behaviours in the school and community
- Attend school and classes regularly and punctually
- Dress appropriately for a learning, working environment (including proper footwear)
- Help to make the school a safe, caring and orderly place
- Be prepared to engage in purposeful learning activities
- Behave in an ethical and lawful manner
- Take responsibility meeting expectations and deadlines
- To have increasing personal responsibility and self-discipline as you move from grade to grade
- Inform an adult, in a timely manner, of incidents of bullying, harassment or intimidation
- Be considerate of other people's allergies

Unacceptable Conduct interferes with a positive learning environment

Some examples of unacceptable behaviours include:

- Any behaviour that interferes with the learning of others
- The use of inappropriate or abusive language
- Creating a negative tone and interfering with an orderly environment
- Threatening, harassing, intimidating, assaulting or bullying (including cyberbullying) in any way
- Possessing weapons or dangerous articles
- Possession, use, or distribution of illegal or restrictive substances
- Theft of or damage to property
- Any efforts to cause harm or discriminate against another person based on, but not limited to, race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, gender, physical or intellectual disability, marital or family status, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, and/or gender expressions (LGBT2QIA+), or for any other reason set out in the Human Rights Code of British Columbia
- Publishing or displaying anything that would indicate an intention to discriminate against another, or expose them to contempt or ridicule on the basis of any such grounds
- Acts of retribution toward a person who has reported incidents

Rising Expectations

The Code of Conduct recognizes that as children grow and mature, they are better able to make appropriate decisions and be responsible for their actions. As students' progress through the school, they are expected to:

- Acquire great knowledge and understanding about their personal behaviour and how it impacts others
- Learn and utilize appropriate decision-making strategies
- Demonstrate increasing self-discipline
- Take increased personal responsibility for their actions and learning
- Be subject to increasing consequences for inappropriate behaviour

Consequences

When determining consequences, and in compliance with Arrow Lakes School District policies #310 Expectations for Student Conduct, 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 follow District procedures and will:

- Be thoughtful, consistent and fair
- Seek to prevent recurrence of the offense
- Teach acceptable social behaviour rather than be merely punitive
- Provide means for restitution and restorative action where appropriate
- Involve the offender in determining a corrective plan of action where appropriate

Notification

School staff may, depending on the severity and frequency of unacceptable conduct:

- Give students chances to improve their conduct
- Have students inform parents directly about instances of unacceptable conduct
- Contact and inform parents directly about a student's unacceptable conduct
- Inform the parents of students who have been the victims of unacceptable conduct
- Inform school district officials as required by district policies
- Contact police and other agencies as required by law
- Alert school staff, parents, and students of serious situations or incidents as appropriate, and inform the school community of the actions taken to address these situations.

Cell Phone Policy

- Students are expected to store their personal electronic devices in their lockers during instructional time. At the teacher's discretion, an exemption may be made when the use of such devices supports a specific curricular objective and is part of instructional planning.
- The following procedure will be used for violations of these expectations:
 - **1st issue** - The student will hand in their device to the teacher for the remainder of the school day. The student is responsible for collecting their device from the staff member. We expect students to comply with this request without becoming argumentative or defiant. Students not complying with this request may be sent to the administration.

- **2nd issue** - The student will be sent to the office, and the student will hand in their device to administration for the remainder of the school day.

- **3rd issue** - The student will be sent to the office, and the student will hand in their device to the administration. A student's parent/guardian will be asked to pick up the device.

“Personal Internet-Connected Devices**” include, but are not limited to, cell phones, tablets, computers, smartwatches, and portable video game systems. At Lucerne Elementary Secondary School, we include Air pods and other wireless/Bluetooth devices.*

- *Continuing to disregard these expectations may result in consequences per the Code of Conduct and may include not being permitted to bring devices to school, suspension, and/or other disciplinary consequences.*
- We understand that many parents/guardians use text messages to communicate with their children during the day. Students can check their phones during their morning break, at lunch, and after school. For emergency situations, we ask that you contact the school office, and we will pass along your message or have your child contact you.

The school encourages parents to communicate openly with the school and in a timely manner.