

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT



Introduction

St. Gabriel Catholic School focuses on a welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe learning environment. Our Student Code of Conduct will continue to be developed by our school community based on input from students, parents, and staff. It is reflective of the expectations of students as addressed in legislation and Edmonton Catholic School Division policy. It will be communicated in writing to all members of the school community, to be reviewed and adapted, as necessary, and on an annual basis.

Goal

Our priority is to establish and maintain an appropriate balance between individual and collective rights, freedoms, and responsibilities in our school community. Our code of conduct is in place to help students learn how to address issues of dispute, develop empathy, and become good citizens both within and outside of the school community. We believe that we are called to recognize the divine in each person and that we are all children of God. We affirm that the rights set out in the Alberta Human Rights Act and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms are afforded to all students and staff members. We affirm that pursuant to the Alberta Human Rights Acts and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, students and staff members are protected from discrimination. More specifically, discrimination refers to any conduct that serves to deny or discriminate against any person or class of persons regarding any goods, services, accommodations or facilities that are customarily available to the public, and the denial or discrimination is based on race, religious beliefs, colour, gender, physical disability, mental disability, ancestry, place of origin, marital status, source of income, family status or sexual orientation.

We believe that all students deserve:

- a safe & caring learning environment
- a positive, proactive approach to learning
- social skill development
- clear expectations supervision & monitoring
- positive reinforcement fair consequences for appropriate & inappropriate behaviours

We All Belong Here

Our school is committed to providing an inclusive, welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe Catholic learning environment that promotes the well-being of all students. As part of this commitment, Edmonton Catholic Schools has Administrative Procedure 172, which outlines how to report incidents of racism and discrimination.

There is no room for discrimination or racism at our school. If you experience or witness racism or discrimination, talk with your family, your teacher, or a trusted adult at your school. If you are in a situation where you need help and you feel there is no one you can talk to at home or school, then please use the reporting form found on ecsd.net/reportdiscrimination. When you make a report to a teacher, administrator, or staff member, or through the reporting form, an investigation will begin. It is brave to speak up.

If you need immediate help, you can contact the Kids Help Phone by calling 1-800-668-6868 or texting 686868.



Our community members are expected to behave in a Christ-like, self-disciplined and responsible manner when interacting with others in the school building, outside of school or school hours, or electronically.

Acceptable Behaviours	Unacceptable Behaviours
○ Respect yourself and the rights of others	○ Rude or inappropriate language.
○ Inform an adult you trust of incidents of bullying, harassment, intimidation or other safety concerns in the school.	○ Physical violence.
○ Act in ways that honours and appropriately represents you and your school.	○ Acts of bullying, harassment, or intimidation.
○ Attend school regularly and punctually.	○ Retribution against any person in the school.
○ Cooperate with all school staff.	○ Illegal activity such as: -possession, use or distribution of illegal or restricted substances. -possession or use of weapons. -theft or damage to property. -threatening behaviours to students, staff or community.
○ Know and comply with the rules of the school.	○ Plagiarism

****It is important to note that, according to Alberta's Education Act, while school staff are not able to control what students do outside of school, students will be held accountable for conduct that occurs outside of the school building, or school day, or electronically if the conduct negatively affects a member of the school or interferes with the school environment.**

Consequences of Unacceptable Behaviour

St. Gabriel staff will consider the specific circumstances of the situation, the student's age, maturity, and individual circumstances when determining appropriate consequences for unacceptable behaviour. We will also address how support will be provided to students impacted by inappropriate behaviour and to those students who engage in inappropriate behaviour. All information affecting the decisions made about the consequences or supports put in place for a student will be discussed with

their parent/caregiver only, in compliance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. A continuum of supports may include preventative procedures, mentoring, restorative processes, regular check-ins with staff, etc. A severe breach of conduct may require suspension (in-school and/or out of school) in accordance with section 36 of the Education Act.

Responsibilities of Students

Students are accountable for their conduct. Everyone makes mistakes and when you do, it is about admitting and owning up to those mistakes, taking responsibility and, when necessary, making things right.

You can contribute to a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging by:

- smiling at your peers and the adults in your school
- greeting visitors to your classroom or school
- encouraging your friends to contribute to a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe environment
- being friendly and helpful towards students that are new to the school and others
- inviting someone to play with you at recess
- keeping your school and school grounds clean and tidy
- coming to school on time and as prepared as possible
- treating everyone with respect even if you don't agree with their beliefs and/or values
- demonstrating empathy for others
- following classroom and school expectations so everyone can learn
- avoiding put downs or snickers when questions are asked in class. No one should feel afraid or nervous about coming to school getting involved in school
- activities that interest you doing your best in all of your schoolwork. Let your talents shine through. Encourage others to also do and be their best
- respecting personal space and belongings

Responsibilities of Parents

Students and staff are responsible to ensure that their conduct contributes to a welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging. Parents have a corresponding responsibility under section 16.2(a) of the School Act to help their child meet his/her responsibilities. Parents have an important role to play, whether they are in the school regularly or not, to:

- make sure your child attends school regularly and punctually

- pay attention to how you talk about the school, staff, other students and their families in front of your child
- speak respectfully to and about school staff
- All parties in a conflict situation must recognize and respect the principle of "first contact." This means that the person(s) who have the concern, have a responsibility to begin addressing the concern directly with those persons with whom they have the concern before taking their concern elsewhere.
- model kindness
- take responsibility for your mistakes
- model peaceful problem solving when you have a conflict
- make appointments to ensure the person you want to speak with has sufficient time to have a focused conversation
- report any problems at school to the teacher as soon as you can problems are easier to solve when they haven't been going on for a long time- always start with your child's teacher
- respect the teacher's role