

## Supporting Positive Behaviour

Consequences for misbehaviour are considered in three stages with the overall goal of helping students develop skills and improve their understanding of responsible and respectful behaviour. Serious situations may require moving directly to level 3. Examples of unacceptable behaviour are physical fighting, making abusive or racist comments, being disrespectful to peers or staff, or destroying school property, although this is not an all-inclusive list. Consequences are restorative rather than punitive whenever possible. Special considerations may apply to students with special needs if they are unable to comply with the Code of Conduct due to having a disability of an intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional or behavioural nature.

### Level 1

- reinforce problem solving strategies with student
- discussion with adult

### Level 2

- when the situation warrants further attention, students may be asked to write a *think sheet* describing their role in the situation and how the situation can be solved
- parents may be asked to sign and support the plan of action

### Level 3

- occurs when the 'cooperation, safety, respect' rule is broken in a **serious way**; consequences may involve meeting with parents and support staff such as Supervision Aides, Counsellors, YFW, and FNSSW. School officials may have a responsibility to advise other parties of serious breaches of the code of conduct.

### Who you can call for assistance:

- call your child's teacher first
- call Principal or Vice-Principal

## Student Suspension Expulsion

In accordance with the School Act, sec.85(2) (ii) and (d), the Vancouver School Board authorizes the Principal to suspend a student from attending school for a period of up to five days. Students will be given work to do at home during the suspension. A letter outlining the reasons for suspension is given to parents. Due to particular circumstances, a student may receive an in-school suspension where they would spend the day in the office with work provided. Suspensions over 5 days are made with the Director of Instruction as per the District Student Code of Conduct, AP 350. As per AP 350 6.7.1 an educational program must be provided. A suspension may be for the following reasons:

- a) a student displays violent, extremely disruptive or defiant behaviour; is willfully and repeatedly disrespectful to a teacher or Board employee carrying out Board approved responsibilities.
- b) a student engages in bullying (both verbal and non-verbal) towards other students or adults or is involved in a physical altercation with another student.
- c) a student's behaviour breaches the District or School Code of Conduct or has a harmful effect on others or the learning environment of the school.

In the event of a suspension, the Parent or Guardian will be called in to discuss the situation and will be expected to support the child's commitment for improved behaviour.

If there is a violation of a very serious nature, suspension will be immediate.

# Charles Dickens Elementary



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## CODE OF CONDUCT 2020 - 2021

*Cooperation*

*safety*

*Respect*

## School Mission Statement

Together we bring alive our commitment to develop each child's potential in all domains through a long-established philosophy built on mutual respect, continuous learning and opportunities for leadership within a child-centered, multi-aged framework.

## Code of Conduct for Charles Dickens Elementary

Our school community believes that it is important to establish a safe, supportive learning environment. We do this by taking care of each other, taking care of ourselves, and taking care of this place. Our school code is:

- **Cooperation**
- **Safety**
- **Respect**

## Purpose

Dickens promotes the values expressed in the BC Human Rights Code respecting the rights of all individuals in accordance with the law – prohibiting discrimination based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex or sexual orientation – in respect of discriminatory publication and discrimination in accommodation, service and facility in the school environment.

“Racism will not be tolerated in our school.”

Students are expected to demonstrate and develop respect for themselves and others, to show and take responsibility for their actions to benefit their classroom and school community, and to always act safely.

## School Wide Expectations

### Outside:

- include others
- play safely
- encourage interaction between younger and older students

### Hallways & Stairways:

- walk safely
- use inside voices
- work together to make this a pleasant place

### Lunchroom or Classroom:

- follow established route for food service and to eat lunch
- clean up after selves
- quiet conversation

### In Washroom:

- report problems to adult
- treat place like your own home
- be respectful of people’s privacy

Students are encouraged to make good decisions commensurate with their age and ability to ensure their behaviour demonstrates safety, fairness and kindness at all times.

These expectations apply to behaviour at school, during school-organized or sponsored activities and behaviour beyond these times (including on-line behaviour) that negatively impacts the safe, caring and orderly environment of the school, and /or student learning.

## At Dickens we encourage:

- leadership by providing opportunities for students to take on special projects (e.g., lunch hour games, equipment monitors, peer helpers, buddy projects, Green Team, Student Council, Assembly Team, and service to others
- students to become involved outside the school - the greater community: (e.g., Terry Fox, Food Bank, Keep Vancouver Spectacular Cleanup, and other charitable events as deemed relevant by the teachers and students
- students to be involved in their home community by working closely with local community centres (e.g. Mt. Pleasant, Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood House) and with community team sports (i.e. basketball, badminton, soccer)

## Families Can Help

1. Discuss this pamphlet with your child and or children.
2. Contact your child’s teacher and/or call the school if you have any questions.
3. Further information can be found on our website [www.dickens.vsb.bc.ca](http://www.dickens.vsb.bc.ca) and on the Vancouver School Board website [www.vsb.bc.ca](http://www.vsb.bc.ca).

\* *The staff at Dickens work hard to make the school Code of Conduct reflect the school’s philosophy. It should be considered a work in progress and is revisited each year. Last reviewed November, 2020.*