

Learning to Care... Caring to Learn

George Jay's CODE OF CITIZENSHIP

A caring, respectful environment that supports learning for all

Our multicultural school population comes to us with a wide range of beliefs and assumptions with respect to socially responsible behavior. A respectful, orderly, and safe school is the foundation for a successful learning environment and at the same time honors all. This Code of Citizenship is designed to:

- Establish and maintain safe, caring and orderly environments for purposeful learning
- Establish and maintain appropriate balances among individual and collective rights, freedoms, and responsibilities
- Clarify and publish expectations for positive student behaviour while at school, while going to and from school, and while attending any school function or activity at any location that is consistent, fair and respectful.

BC Human Rights Code:

In line with the BC Human Rights Code, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of an individual's Race, Colour, Ancestry, Place of Origin, Religion, Marital Status, Family Status, Physical or Mental Disability, Sex, Sexual Orientation, Age, George Jay's Code of Conduct promotes a climate of understanding and mutual respect where all are equal in dignity and rights.

ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR

The students at George Jay Elementary are expected to be responsible citizens. We believe that all students have the right to receive an education in a positive, caring environment and to have these rights, there must be responsibilities. We expect students and staff to demonstrate their understanding of their rights and their responsibilities. (Refer to Code of Citizenship Matrix for further details)

Be Safe: We will behave and play without harming or threatening others. We will use equipment and materials in a safe manner. Students have the responsibility to get help for another student if necessary; inform a "tellable" adult, in a timely manner of incidents of bullying, harassment or intimidation. It is expected that all students make the school a safe, caring and orderly place.

Be Organized: We will be present and on time to the best of my ability at school. We will be prepared to learn by having materials ready and our personal belongings organized. We will respect the privacy and possessions of others.

Be Accountable: We will be attentive, complete assignments to the best of our abilities. We will act in a manner which does not interfere with another student's learning. We will be respectful of people's personal space and be in designated areas.

Be Respectful: We will treat others with kindness, courtesy and respect. This includes all students, staff and visitors to the school. We will care for school property, school equipment and displays.

RISING EXPECTATIONS

As students grow up they have:

- Increasing responsibility
- Increasing consequences for unacceptable conduct

UNACCEPTABLE CONDUCT

These following behaviours are examples only and are not an all-inclusive list

Behaviors that:

Interfere with the learning of others

- Show irresponsibility
- Create unsafe conditions

Acts of:

- Physical violence
- Bullying, harassment or intimidation of any kind

Illegal acts such as:

- Possession of anything illegal
- Possession or use of weapons
- Damage to property or theft

CONSEQUENCES

Rising Expectations: At George Jay School, we feel that as children become older, more mature and move through the successive grades we expect:

- increasing personal responsibility and self-discipline
- increasing consequences for inappropriate behaviour; and
- consequences sensitive to the child's abilities (support that assists students to master behavioural expectations is provided).

The severity and frequency of unacceptable conduct, as well as the age and maturity of students, is considered in determining appropriate disciplinary action. For example:

- responses to unacceptable conduct are pre-planned, consistent and fair (**immediate removal from the situation**);
- disciplinary action, wherever possible, is preventative and restorative, rather than merely punitive (**incident must be recorded**); and
- students, as often as possible, are encouraged to participate in the development of meaningful consequences for violations of the established code of conduct (**Conference with student and Action Plan written**).

NOTIFICATION

Serious unacceptable behavior can result in advising:

- Parents of offender
- Parents of victim
- District officials as required by policy
- Police/other agencies as required by law

PROGRAMS USED

Staff may use one or several of the following when dealing with children:

- WITS
- Restitution
- George Jay S.O.A.R. code of conduct
- Social thinking
- 3 Tiered Intervention for positive behavior
- Students rights and responsibilities

The George Jay Code of Citizenship includes the standards if the Provincial Standard for Codes of Conduct. The Board will take all reasonable steps to prevent retaliation by a persona against a student who has made a complaint of a breach of a code of conduct. Our goal is to always work together to solve the problem and get the child back on track utilizing a restorative approach.