

**RENFREW EDUCATIONAL SERVICES
SOCIETY POLICY BOOK
FOUNDATIONAL STATEMENT**

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT	POLICY NUMBER: 1.16
APPROVED: FEBRUARY 2016 REVIEWED: JUNE 2017, MAY 2018, JUNE 2019, MAY 2020, MAY 2021	TAKEN FROM: HEALTH AND SAFETY MANUAL, POLICY 1.1.6

POLICY: Renfrew will implement a student code of conduct that all children must adhere to and follow.

Procedures:

- The Student Code of Conduct will be reviewed by the Board of Directors by June 30th of each year.
- The Student Code of Conduct will be provided to all staff, children/students and parents and is publicly available.

Purpose:

In keeping with its mission and Alberta legislation, and its Safe and Caring Policy, Renfrew Educational Services is committed to:

- Providing all children/student with a welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe learning environment;
- Establishing a reasonable and caring balance between individual and collective rights, freedoms and responsibilities within the school community; and,
- Publishing as part of student registration, school start information and other forms, writing expectations for children's behaviour (to children and their parents) while at school, at school-related activities, or while engaging in activities that may have an impact on others in the school.

Expected Conduct:

Consistent with Section 12 of the School Act and in keeping with the mission and vision of Renfrew Educational Services, each child/student is responsible for acting positively in support of a welcoming and caring learning environment by:

- Acting at all times in keeping with the vision and mission underlying the school;
- Respecting oneself and the rights of others in the school;
- Conducting oneself in a manner that contributes to a welcoming, caring and respectful and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging;
- Refrain from and refuse to tolerate bullying whether in or outside of the school or school hours or electronically;
- Inform a responsible, trusted and caring adult in a timely manner of incidents of bullying, harassment, intimidation or other unwelcoming or uncaring acts;
- Attend school regularly and punctually;
- Diligently and actively being prepared to learn and actively pursue learning;
- Being accountable for individual behaviours to teachers and school staff;
- Cooperating with school staff to make the school a positive learning environment for all; and,
- Knowing and following the rules of the school;

Unacceptable Conduct:

Unacceptable behaviours that may negatively affect a member of the Renfrew Educational Services community or the school's learning environment, whether in or outside of the school or school hours or electronically, include, but are not limited to:

- **Discrimination.** In keeping with the Alberta Human Rights Act, no student or person may discriminate against a student on the basis of an individual student's race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religious beliefs, gender (including pregnancy, sexual harassment, and gender identity) physical disability, mental disability, marital status, family status, source of income or sexual orientation.
- **Acts of bullying, harassment or intimidation.** As defined by the School Act, Section 1.1(b.1) bullying is defined as the "repeated and hostile or demeaning behaviour by an individual in the school community where the behaviour is intended to cause harm, fear or distress to one more individuals in the school community, including psychological harm or harm to an individual's reputation.
- **Physical violence.**
- **Acts of retribution** against an individual who has intervened to prevent bullying or informed about bullying or other unacceptable behaviour.
- **Illegal activities** including, those involving illegal or restricted substances, possession or use or threat of use of weapons, and theft or damage to property.

Consequences:

Children/students are expected to conduct themselves in keeping with their responsibilities as children. Renfrew will ensure that consequences of unacceptable behaviour will take into account the developmental age, maturity and individual circumstances of the child/student.

The school will investigate each instance of unacceptable conduct and pursue disciplinary action in a matter consistent with the principles of fundamental justice and the school's student discipline policy. In grave circumstances, an individual found to have engaged in unacceptable conduct may be subject to possible suspension or expulsion.

Remediation and Support:

In order to foster a positive learning environment, Renfrew Educational Services will engage in reasonable and caring efforts to support both the individual(s) who may have been the subject or victim(s) of unacceptable behaviour(s) and to support perpetrators of unacceptable conduct to improve their conduct.

Supportive actions that Renfrew Educational Services may include, but are not limited to:

- Mentoring of individual children/students by older students;
- More focused attention to individual children;
- Regular follow-up meetings of specific teachers with individual children;
- Student Peer Support Groups, including GSAs and QSAs as appropriate;
- Counselling; and Restorative justice processes.