

STRATHCONA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

CODE OF CONDUCT

Revised September 2026

Safe • Caring • Inclusive • Equitable

1. Purpose

Strathcona Elementary School is committed to a safe, caring, inclusive, equitable, and orderly learning environment where every student can learn, belong, and thrive. This Code supports SD33 Policy 310: Student Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities and Policy 313: Safe Schools.

Every member of our community deserves dignity, respect, and compassion. We celebrate diversity, honour Indigenous histories, cultures, perspectives, and ways of knowing, and share responsibility for belonging, reconciliation, learning, and safety.

Scope

This Code applies at school, during school-organized or sponsored activities, while travelling to and from school, during online interactions, and whenever behaviour affects the safety, learning, well-being, or orderly environment of the school.

2. Our Strathcona Commitments

BE RESPECTFUL	Treat others with dignity, kindness, empathy, and respect.
BE RESPONSIBLE	Make safe choices, accept responsibility, and contribute positively.
BE COOPERATIVE	Work together, listen to others, and support learning.
BE CARING	Show compassion, include others, and consider their needs and feelings.

3. Rights and Responsibilities

Students Have the Right To

- Feel safe, welcome, respected, included, and treated fairly
- Learn free from discrimination, harassment, bullying, and intimidation
- Express their views respectfully and be heard in matters that affect them
- Receive support when concerns arise

Students Are Expected To

- Follow school and classroom expectations
- Respect the rights, property, privacy, and personal space of others
- Use respectful language and actions and act honestly and responsibly
- Seek help when safety concerns arise and practise responsible digital citizenship

4. Expected Behaviours

Members of the Strathcona community are expected to:

- Follow school rules and arrive prepared to learn
- Demonstrate kindness, respect, inclusion, cooperation, and good sportsmanship
- Respect school property and the property and personal space of others
- Solve conflicts peacefully and seek adult help when needed
- Report safety concerns to a trusted adult
- Follow school and district technology expectations

5. Digital Citizenship and Personal Digital Devices

Students will use technology safely, respectfully, responsibly, and in ways that support focused learning. They will protect privacy, communicate respectfully, use school accounts and devices appropriately, avoid recording or sharing information involving others without permission, and report harmful online behaviour.

Personal Digital Devices

In accordance with SD33 Administrative Procedure 318, personal digital devices, including cell phones, smartwatches, and tablets, are not to be used during the school day unless staff permit their use for instruction, digital literacy, accessibility or accommodation, medical or health needs, or equity in support of learning outcomes. Devices must be stored as directed by staff.

6. Unacceptable Behaviour

Unacceptable behaviour includes, but is not limited to:

- Bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, intimidation, threats, extortion, retaliation, or violence
- Discrimination or racist, sexist, homophobic, transphobic, ableist, or other discriminatory language or actions
- Possession or use of weapons or replicas intended to threaten or intimidate

- Theft, vandalism, or damage to property
- Possession, use, or distribution of alcohol, cannabis, illegal drugs, tobacco, nicotine, or vapour products
- Unsafe or harmful use of technology, artificial intelligence, digital media, or social media
- Behaviour that disrupts learning, compromises safety, or negatively affects the school environment

These expectations apply at school, during school-related activities, online, while travelling to and from school, and in other circumstances that affect the school environment.

7. Equity, Human Rights, and Inclusion

Strathcona Elementary will not tolerate discrimination, harassment, exclusion, intimidation, or bullying based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, or any other protected ground under the BC Human Rights Code. The school will respond to discriminatory behaviour and provide reasonable supports and accommodations consistent with law and district policy.

8. Reporting and Responding to Safety Concerns

Students, staff, families, volunteers, and visitors should report bullying, discrimination, harassment, threats, violence, self-harm, weapons, or other unsafe behaviour promptly to a teacher, principal, vice principal, counsellor, or trusted adult. Reports will be received respectfully, addressed in a timely manner, and kept private to the extent reasonably possible. Retaliation for a good-faith report is unacceptable.

9. Responses to Misconduct

Behaviour communicates needs, and mistakes can be opportunities for learning, accountability, and growth. Responses will protect safety, uphold dignity, repair harm where possible, and teach skills for future success. They will:

- Be fair, respectful, proportionate, restorative, and educational when appropriate
- Consider age, maturity, development, individual circumstances, disability, diverse abilities, and learning, health, accessibility, or support needs
- Consider severity, frequency, and effects on others and the school community
- Seek to repair harm, restore relationships, reduce recurrence, and maintain everyone's rights and safety

Possible Responses

- Teaching, redirection, warning, collaborative problem solving, reflection, mediation, or restorative conversation
- Parent or caregiver contact, restitution, repairing harm, or replacing property
- Temporary changes to privileges, activities, setting, supervision, or program
- School-based team involvement, individualized support or safety planning, or referral to district or community supports
- In-school or out-of-school suspension when necessary and consistent with the School Act and district policy

Students affected by misconduct will be supported whenever reasonably possible. Communication with families will respect privacy requirements and student safety.

10. Recognition of Positive Contributions

Positive behaviour, growth, citizenship, and contributions may be recognized through encouragement, Gotcha Slips, positive messages home, classroom or school-wide recognition, leadership and service opportunities, and celebrations of learning, kindness, and citizenship.

11. Shared Responsibility

Students Will

- Learn and practise the Code, make safe and respectful choices, accept responsibility, repair harm, and seek help

Staff Will

- Model inclusive and professional behaviour, teach and apply expectations fairly, respond to concerns, and support well-being, belonging, accountability, and growth

Parents and Caregivers Will

- Support school expectations, share relevant concerns, collaborate with staff, and communicate respectfully

Visitors and Volunteers Will

- Report to the office, follow school procedures and staff directions, and support a safe and respectful environment

12. Student Dress Guidelines

Clothing and footwear should support safe participation in learning and school activities and respect the dignity and rights of the school community. Concerns will be addressed privately, respectfully, and consistently with the BC Human Rights Code. Students will have a reasonable opportunity to meet the guideline without unnecessary embarrassment or exclusion from learning.

13. Communication, Distribution, and Annual Review

The Code will be publicly available, distributed at the beginning of the school year, provided to new students, families, and staff, and displayed prominently. It will be reviewed annually with representatives of students, families, and staff to assess its effectiveness in addressing current safety, inclusion, and learning needs. Updates will be communicated to the school community.

14. Related Legislation, Standards, and District Policies

- School Act, RSBC 1996, c. 412
- BC Human Rights Code, RSBC 1996, c. 210
- Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Provincial Standards for Codes of Conduct Order
- Safe and Caring School Communities
- SD33 Policy 310: Student Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities
- SD33 Policy 313: Safe Schools
- SD33 Administrative Procedure 318: Student Cell Phone and Digital Device Use

Adoption and Review Record

Effective date	September 2026
Annual review completed	September 2026
Consultation groups	• Families • Staff
Next scheduled review	September 2027