

Student Code of Conduct 2021-2022

At St. Bonaventure, our Student Code of Conduct is to help students learn how to address issues of dispute, develop empathy, and become good citizens and Christians both within and outside of our school community. Our Staff is committed to providing a safe, caring, inclusive and healthy Catholic school community. All community members will work together to help each student develop spiritually, intellectually, physically, socially, morally, and emotionally by aspiring to the highest possible standards of Catholic behaviour, in living out the gospel values, and by fostering a Catholic culture of respect, responsibility and concern for the common good. School administrators, teachers, school staff, students and community members are all partners in creating a welcoming, learning environment.

Students will exercise self-discipline in their respect for self, staff, fellow students, school property and the property of others. They will take full responsibility for their own actions and strive to live up to the expectations of the School Code of Conduct and all other board/school/class expectations, policies and procedures. They will work towards achieving a virtuous lifestyle, high standards of personal conduct and academic performance, active participation in leadership and service initiatives, concern for the environment, and compassion for those in need.

Students fulfill these responsibilities by:

- coming to school prepared, on time, ready to learn, and properly attired;
- striving for excellence in personal conduct and academic performance;
- cultivating opportunities to develop talents and strengthen personal leadership skills;
- demonstrating courteous behaviour to all;
- contributing to an inclusive school culture by advocating that no student be excluded;
- defending the rights of fellow students by reporting and/or safely intervening when the rights of others are threatened or violated;
- cultivating a virtuous life through a commitment to gospel values and service to others;
- participating respectfully in the faith life and liturgical practices of the school community (sacraments, retreats, religion curriculum, etc);
- participating in school programs related to wise stewardship of resources (e.g. reduce, reuse, recycle);
- accepting school discipline as a tool for personal growth, and as an extension of the responsibilities that would be exercised by a kind, firm and judicious parent;
- refraining from bringing anything to school that may compromise the safety of others;
- acknowledging that school safety is a shared responsibility that depends on student commitment and involvement.

*“Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the Gospel of Christ”
(Philippians 1:27)*

Bullying Prevention

In recognizing that “bullying adversely affects the student’s ability to learn, adversely affects healthy relationships and school climate, and adversely affects the school’s ability to educate its students,” ECSD prohibits bullying in all its forms, as a serious offence against the dignity of persons created in God’s image, and as an affront to the integrity of Catholic learning communities. Thus, St. Bonaventure is committed to a comprehensive whole-school approach to bullying prevention and response.

Firstly, it is important to define bullying:

- *Bullying is typically a form of repeated, persistent, and aggressive behaviour directed at a person or group that is meant to cause (or should be known to cause) fear and distress and/or harm to another person's body, feelings, self-esteem, or reputation. Bullying happens where there is a real or perceived power imbalance.*

Consequently, when responding to discipline, and bullying in particular, St. Bonaventure is committed to the implementation of a step-by-step process of supporting positive behaviours and responding to and resolving a wide range of infractions and conflicts with appropriate interventions and consequences.



- A positive behaviour plan will be created that helps to facilitate the renewal of relationships *in a framework of restorative justice*, and to ensure new beginnings for designated students within a nurturing learning environment and shall reflect the model of Christian discipleship.
- We strive for positive behaviour at all times for all students. Positive behaviour includes classroom management strategies and schoolwide programs that teach pro-social skills, providing support for vulnerable students, promoting virtue formation, and fostering Catholic values.
- When challenging/inappropriate behaviours occur, positive behaviour interventions are initiated to re-direct the student's behaviours and encourage him/her to make amends.
- Consequences to help the student appreciate the seriousness of his/her actions are part of this educative process, along with on-going supports to ensure that negative behaviours are replaced with positive ones. Consequences might include lunch or recess detention, chores in and around the school, discussions with parents, or levels of suspension (class, in-school, at-home).
- Occasionally, an at-home suspension may be necessary as a just consequence and to protect the safety of others. A student on an at-home suspension will have an opportunity to continue learning in an alternate setting. Upon return to a regular day school, the student will be welcomed back with on-going support and monitoring.