



The Public Schools Act states that each student will be provided a safe and caring school environment that fosters and maintains respectful and responsible behaviours. The *Act* requires each school to establish a code of conduct for students and staff and to review this code annually to ensure compliance with provincial legislation and consistency with other legislation and divisional policies. Schools must also ensure web resources and references to related documents are up-to-date and comprehensive.

The Sunrise code outlines the behaviour standards and expectations the division has of everyone in order to create and maintain an environment that allows all individuals to feel accepted, valued and safe and to meet the division's vision and purpose.

The code applies to staff and students:

- throughout the school day
- at all school-sponsored activities and events
- in any other school-related context where behaviours might affect the learning or well-being of other students
- at all times on all forms of divisional transportation

Parents and visitors to the school also play a critical role in setting expectations and modeling and coaching student behaviour. This code also outlines their responsibilities to maintain safe schools.

The division and schools will regularly seek input on the code of conduct from staff, students, parents and the community-at-large.

A. PRINCIPLES

The Sunrise School Division and school codes of conduct will be based on these principles:

1. Expectations will be communicated clearly and consistently.
2. Students and staff will continually promote and practice attitudes and actions that provide a safe learning environment.



3. Each student will be recognized as having unique strengths and abilities.
4. School-wide approaches to student behaviour will focus on the relationship between behaviour and learning. Students will learn to problem-solve, manage their own behaviours, build friendships and manage conflict with others.
5. A continuum of student support methods, strategies and interventions will be used to encourage positive behaviours and assist students to change inappropriate behaviours. In severe or chronic cases, staff may administer discipline. In all cases, the goal will be to use proactive preventive skill-building approaches.
6. Teachers will never administer physical punishment.
7. If **all** other appropriate interventions have been attempted, staff may use approved methods of physical restraint in situations where a student may be at risk of physical harm to themselves or others. Documentation of this process will occur in the student's individual education plan.
8. Staff will engage in professional development and growth opportunities that emphasize "best and promising practices" in the areas of learning, behaviour and team approaches.
9. Effective, ongoing communications between staff and parents will be a priority in managing behavioural challenges.
10. Wherever possible, a team consultative approach will be used for decision-making about responses to student behaviours.
11. Behaviour-management strategies and interventions will be developed and implemented in alignment with these principles.

For more about these principles, please see "Sunrise Reasonable Interpretation of Positive School Environments and Student Behaviour" available on www.sunrisesd.ca/.

Unacceptable Behaviours

Behaviours that are not acceptable and will not be tolerated in Sunrise schools include but are not limited to:

1. Bullying, including cyberbullying, or physical, sexual or psychological abuse (in writing, verbally or otherwise).

2. Discrimination on the basis of any characteristic set out in subsection 9 (2) of the [Manitoba Human Rights Code](#).
3. Using, possessing or being under the influence of alcohol or illicit drugs at school.
4. Gang involvement on school sites.
5. Possessing a weapon as “weapon” is defined in Canada’s [Criminal Code](#).
6. Inappropriate use of electronic mail, the internet, cell phones and electronic communication devices, including: accessing, uploading, downloading or distributing material that the school has determined objectionable; or students taking photos, video recordings and images of staff or students on school property without the permission of authorized school personnel.

B. RESPONSIBILITIES

Sunrise believes that all staff, parents and students share the responsibility to maintain a safe, caring environment and are expected to follow this code of conduct.

1. Staff is responsible for:

- Complying with the division’s and local school’s codes of conduct, as well as their professional codes of conduct/ethics and related policies
- Modeling appropriate personal management skills including respectfulness and professionalism
- Demonstrating respect for all people in the school community
- Providing learning environments that are emotionally and physically safe and respectful for all
- Participating in creating a positive school-wide culture
- Providing relevant learning experiences that address the diverse needs of students
- Communicating relevant information about student progress, attendance and behaviour to students, to their parents/guardians and to appropriate school staff
- Respecting confidential information about staff, parents and students
- Implementing supportive and disciplinary interventions and strategies selected from the Sunrise School Division continuum of supports

The following factors may be considered when addressing student behaviour:

- the age, maturity and cognitive development of the student
- the context in which the incident occurred
- the frequency, duration, intensity and severity of the incident



- the student’s history regarding similar offences
- previous actions taken

2. Students are responsible for:

- Complying with the division’s and local school’s codes of conduct and related policies
- Developing and practicing appropriate personal management skills including respectfulness and cooperation
- Demonstrating respect for all people in the school community
- Resolving conflicts through peaceful strategies including asking school staff for help
- Respecting the rights of others to be safe from physical and emotional violence
- Respecting school property and the personal property of others
- Dressing in accordance with school dress standards

3. Parents/Guardians are responsible for:*

- Promoting the following values and attitudes in their children:
 - Education is important
 - Respect for themselves, others and the environment
 - Desire to do their best at all times
- Modeling appropriate personal management skills including respectfulness
- Advocating for their child’s success in a positive manner
- Ensuring their child’s regular attendance in school and contacting the school if their child will be absent
- Supporting and working together with school staff in the event of learning and behavioural interventions, including working towards the peaceful resolution of conflict and discouraging disrespectful, violent or aggressive behaviour
- Recognizing and supporting the authority of school staff in providing a safe environment
- Ensuring that the school is able to contact the parent/guardian or a designate during the school day
- Demonstrating support for the school and offering constructive input

*These parent responsibilities align with *The Public Schools Act* and *The Child and Family Services Act*.

Cross Reference:		
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