

## OVERVIEW

Our Code of Conduct has been gradually developed over many years and its content reflects input from our whole school community. It has been approved by the *Vancouver Board Of Education* and complies with *Ministry Of Education* guidelines as well as the *BC Human Rights Code*. It applies to all of the staff, parents, guardians and students at Nootka.

## UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR

In pursuit of these goals, some kinds of behavior simply cannot be tolerated. These include:

- bullying or discrimination based upon differences such as gender, race, cultural background, religious beliefs, abilities, appearance or sexual orientation.
- words and actions that harm, embarrass or encourage the exclusion of others.
- teasing, swearing and put downs.
- retaliation, violence, threats, aggression and the bringing of any kind of weapon to school.
- unsafe play or conduct.
- vandalism, graffiti and littering.

## PORTABLE ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Children may only use portable electronic devices with the permission of a staff member. They are not to be used during unstructured times, including before or after school and at recess or lunch. We cannot be responsible for the loss or damage of these items. If repeated violation of this policy occurs, the device may be kept in the school's office until it is picked up by the child's family.

## HOW PARENTS CAN HELP

- Review this pamphlet from time to time and discuss it with your child. Lead by example.
- Develop a respectful relationship with the teachers and staff who work with your child, as well as with other families.
- Model peaceful problem solving.
- Monitor your child's use of technology, including their amount of screen time, and use of messaging tools or social media.

## CONSEQUENCES

The consequences for unacceptable behavior will be the same whether it occurs in person, in writing or through the use of technology, on or off school grounds. For a first offense, a staff member will speak to the child about the situation and a short time-out may be given. For repeated or serious misbehavior, the consequences may include keeping a written record of the incident as well as contacting the child's family. **Chronic violations** of the spirit outlined in this document will be handled by the Administration who may consult with District Staff, police, MCFD or other agencies.

## A FEW COMMITMENTS

Recognizing the importance of the attitudes and actions described in this document, we will work to build the kind of school community outlined here.

When consequences are necessary, discipline decisions will be **logical, preventative and restorative**. In addition, the age, maturity and unique needs of the student will be considered.



Nootka Elementary School

Vancouver, B.C.

# CODE OF CONDUCT

A **POSITIVE** GUIDE TO THE KIND OF SCHOOL COMMUNITY WE ARE STRIVING TO BE

Last Updated: April 2014

# AT NOOTKA, WE CARE ABOUT ...

## OURSELVES

We ...

- come to school on time, ready to work
- seek to demonstrate a positive attitude.
- eat healthy foods, exercise regularly and get plenty of sleep at night.
- dress appropriately and avoid negative message clothing.
- stay home when we are sick.
- take care of our belongings and leave valuable items at home.
- keep any portable electronic devices that we bring in our backpacks unless they are to be used at the direction of staff.

**In addition, students are expected to:**

- follow directions given by any member of the school's staff.
- stay on the school grounds during breaks unless you are going home for lunch.

## EACH OTHER

We ...

- treat others how we want to be treated.
- are courteous and polite.
- listen, share, take turns and cooperate.
- use words to solve problems peacefully.
- keep our hands and feet to ourselves.
- are friendly and inclusive.
- help to break down the invisible walls that can sometimes divide us.
- are team players and good sports.
- avoid wearing strong scents and bringing food with nuts to school. (Some people have serious allergies towards them.)
- get permission before taking someone's picture or posting any photos online.
- think before we post anything online, remembering that everything on the Internet is permanent and public.
- play safely at all times.

## OUR SCHOOL AND WORLD

We ...

- clean up after ourselves and help to keep our building and school grounds clean.
- use class and library materials with care -- and return them when they're due.
- reduce, reuse and recycle.
- respect any artwork that's on display.
- use inside voices within the building.
- demonstrate good audience behavior.
- use washrooms only for their intended purpose. We flush, wash our hands and leave as soon as we're done.
- save gum for home because it tends to make a mess at school.
- keep the hallways clear so that everyone can move about easily, especially those with mobility challenges.