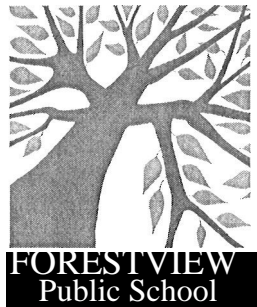


Forestview Public Elementary School

# Code of Student Behaviour

2012-2013



## "Code of *Student Behaviour*"

We, at the District School Board of Niagara, believe every child has:

*the right to learn*  
*the right to be safe*  
*the right to be respected*

### RATIONALE

To this end, a school is a place that promotes responsibility, respect, civility and academic excellence in a safe learning and teaching environment.

All students, parents, teachers and the staff have the right to be safe and feel safe, in their school community. Every student has the right to an education without disruption and a corresponding responsibility not to deny this right to any other student. With this right also comes the responsibility to be law-abiding citizens and to be accountable for actions that put at risk the safety of others or oneself. All members of the school community are to be treated with respect and are expected to use non-violent means to resolve conflicts.

The Forestview Code of Student Behaviour sets clear standards for behaviour in order to promote a positive educational atmosphere for all. To this end, the learning environment must be free from abuse, bullying, discrimination, intimidation, hateful words and deeds, and physical violence in any form. The standards of behaviour in the Code of Student Behaviour apply not only to students, but also to all individuals involved in the publicly funded system- parents/guardians, volunteers, teachers and other staff members, whether they are on school property, on school based or at school-authorized events or activities.

The information in this document outlines roles and responsibilities, standards of behaviour and consequences for unacceptable behaviour as well school routines and dress code.

## Forestview Elementary School

### "Code of *Student* Behaviour"

#### ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND RIGHTS

All participants involved in the publicly funded school system students, parents or guardians, volunteers, teachers and other staff members, are included in the Code of Student Behaviour whether they are on school property, on school buses or school-authorized events and activities.

Principals, under the direction of their school board, take a leadership role in the daily operation of a school. They provide leadership by:

- demonstrating care and commitment to academic excellence and a safe teaching learning environment, while holding everyone, under their authority, accountable for their behaviour.

In order to fulfill these responsibilities, the Principal has the right to:

- expect reasonable behaviour throughout the school, and in all educational settings;
- receive support from staff, students parents, and community members in the performance of their duties;
- exclude from class or the school a student who is disruptive or endangering the safety of self or others;
- expect cooperation from all staff, students and parents in helping students carry out their responsibilities during school fun

## Student Rights:

*Students have the right to:*

1. be treated with fairness, respect and dignity.
2. equitable educational opportunities (academic, social/behavioural/emotional and physical).
3. learn in a safe and secure school environment.
4. learn in an atmosphere free of intimidation, verbal, physical, sexual, ethnic, religious or racial harassment.

## Student Responsibilities:

*Students have the responsibility to:*

1. attend class regularly, be punctual, prepared and ready to learn.
2. behave in a responsible and courteous manner that is respectful to themselves, all staff, parents/guardians, volunteers, guests, crossing guards, school supervisors and fellow students at Forestview School or at any school authorized events/activities.
3. be respectful of school, personal and community property.
4. ensure that all school correspondence to his/her parent and/or guardian reaches home and correspondence is returned to school, if necessary.
5. follow appropriate hygiene and personal habits.
6. be environmentally conscientious (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) in our school community.
7. follow this Forestview School "Code of *Student Behaviour*" and be responsible and accountable for his/her own actions.
8. refrain from bringing anything to school that may compromise the safety of others
9. use non-violent means to resolve conflict. Seek staff assistance, if necessary, to resolve conflict peacefully.
10. report unsafe situations, events or bullying that may interfere with his/her safety while at school or on the way to and from school .

## Parent/Guardian Rights:

*Parents/guardians have the right to:*

1. expect that their child(ren) will be safe and secure at school or other related school activities.
2. be welcomed and encouraged to become involved in a wide variety of school activities and the School Council .
3. communication regarding their child(ren)'s academic, social/behavioural/emotional and physical performance.
4. be informed of programs, events, activities and issues at school.
5. be welcomed at the school and encouraged to openly discuss the policy and procedures of our school.

## Parent/Guardian Responsibilities:

*Parents/guardians have the responsibility to:*

1. discuss with their child(ren) and support the Forestview School "*Code of Student Behaviour*".
2. send their children to school with the proper nutrition, personal hygiene, clothing and equipment so that students can participate actively in all school programs.
3. ensure that their child(ren) attend school regularly and punctually and promptly notify the school if their child(ren) are going to be late or absent (Regulation 298, Section 23 (2), Education Act, 1993)
4. ensure that school newsletters and information sheets are read and shared with their child(ren) and return permission forms, if requested.
5. cooperate and support the efforts of school staff in maintaining a safe and respectful learning environment for all students.
6. report unsafe situations, bullying or events that may interfere with a child's safety at school or on the way to and from school .
7. report any potential 'unsafe' playground equipment (i.e bolts missing, cracks etc).
8. follow and obey the clear expectations of our parking facilities, signage and City of Niagara Falls traffic by laws.

## Teacher/Support Staff Rights:

*Teachers and Support Staff have the right to:*

1. expect and receive support, respect and cooperation from the school community.
2. open communication/ dialogue with students, parents and/or guardians.
3. expect that students attend class regularly, punctually and be prepared (example: complete homework assignments, wear proper physical education attire as required by the teacher, and bring the necessary materials/tools).

## Teacher / Support Staff Responsibilities:

*Teachers and Support Staff have the responsibility to:*

1. develop, teach, assess and evaluate programs designed to meet students' needs reflecting "The Ontario Curriculum".
2. provide a pleasant, inviting, friendly, safe and positive environment conducive to learning and communicate the belief that each student is a valued and respected member of our school community.
3. communicate to parents/guardians regularly and meaningfully on issues related to their child's academic, social and behavioural progress.
4. follow appropriate health and safety measures.
5. provide a trustworthy environment for students and parents/guardians to express their concerns.
6. maintain consistent and fair standards of behavior of all students.
7. encourage and motivate all children to actively participate in all aspects of school life.
8. support each child in their efforts to use strategies that will help them solve conflicts and be responsible decision makers.

Each classroom teacher, together with the students, develop a list of classroom expectations, rules, routines and procedures. All minor offences, involving the neglect of attention to classroom expectations or rules, will be handled by the classroom teacher or designate, using either the Classroom Action *Plan /Physical Education Action Plan* or other strategies.

Forestview School uses the "progressive discipline" approach.

Progressive discipline is an approach that makes use of a continuum of interventions, supports and consequences, building upon strategies that promote positive behaviours. Progressive discipline may include early and ongoing intervention strategies such as:

- Contact with the pupil's parent(s)/guardian(s);
- Oral reminders;
- Review of expectations;
- Written work assignment with a learning component;
- Volunteer service to the school community;
- Peer mentoring;
- Referral to counselling;
- Conflict mediation and resolution; and/or
- Consultation.

Progressive discipline may also include a range of interventions, supports and consequences when inappropriate behaviours have occurred, with a focus on improving the behaviour such as one or more of the following:

- Meeting with the pupil's parent(s)/guardian(s), pupil and principal;
- Referral to a community agency for anger management or substance abuse counselling;
- Detentions;
- Withdrawal of privileges;
- Withdrawal from class;
- Restitution for damages;
- Restorative practices; and/or
- Transfer

Progressive discipline is most effective when dialogue between the school and home regarding student achievement, behaviour and expectations is open, courteous and focused on student success.

Out of school suspension, (whether at a school related activity or off school property where engaging in the activity will have an impact on the school climate at Forestview School) shall be considered if it is believed that the student has engaged in any of the following activities :

- 1 . Uttering a threat to inflict serious bodily harm on another person.
2. Possessing alcohol, illegal and/or restricted drugs.
3. Being under the influence of alcohol.
4. Committing an act of vandalism that causes extensive damage to school property at Forestview or to property located on the premises of Forestview School
5. Swearing at a teacher or at another person in a position of authority..
6. Bullying.\*\*
7. Any act considered by the principal to be injurious to the moral tone of the school.
8. Any act considered by the principal to be injurious to the physical or mental well-being of members of the school community.
9. Any act considered by the principal to be contrary to the DSBN Code of Student Behaviour or the Forestview School Code of Student behaviour.

\*\*Bullying is typically a form of repeated, persistent, aggressive behaviour that is directed at an individual/s that is intended to cause (or should be known to cause) fear, distress and or harm to another person's body, self-esteem, or reputation.

Bullying occurs in a context where there is real or perceived power imbalance. Some areas of difference may be size, strength, age, intelligence, economic status, social status, religion, ethnicity, disability, need for special education, sexual orientation, family circumstances, gender or race.

Bullying can be physical (hitting, pushing, tripping), verbal (name calling, mocking, or making sexist, racist or homophobic comments); or social (excluding others from a group, spreading gossip or rumours). It may also occur through the use of technology ( spreading rumours, images, or hurtful comments through the use of e-mail, MSN, Facebook, cellphones, text messaging, Internet websites, or other technology).



The following provide clear expectations about appropriate and inappropriate standards of conduct:

Bicycles, In line Skates, Roller Shoes, Skateboards, Scooters:

Explanation:

- 1 . Students riding their bicycle to school must wear a proper helmet (The Highway Traffic Act, Section 104(2.1) and walk with their bicycle while crossing Kalar Road with the crossing guard.
2. Students must walk their bicycles while on school property, to the designated bicycle racks.
3. Students are not to play or loiter in the vicinity of the bicycle racks anytime during the school day.
4. In-line skates, scooters, roller shoes and skateboards are not permitted while on school property or anywhere in the building.

Care of School Property:

Explanation:

- 1 . Students are expected to take care of school property such as textbooks, library resources, playground/computer equipment, furniture, and sports equipment/uniforms. Defacing school property with graffiti in any school area (including washroom/change room) is prohibited.
2. Students are expected to be respectful of the property of others.

Prohibited Items:

Explanation:

- 1 . Certain products will not be allowed on school property due to the toxic and or potentially destructive/disruptive nature (example: toxic correction fluid).
2. Activated cell phones/pagers.
3. Snow sleds, lacrosse sticks and balls, golf balls, regular size hockey sticks.
4. The Principal has the right to prohibit any other items that are potentially destructive/disruptive to the school environment. Any loss, theft or damage incurred at the school is solely the responsibility of the owner.

Weapons:

Explanation:

- 1 . Items which are prohibited because of their real and/or potential danger to self of others include, but are not limited to: flammable materials (matches, firecrackers, lighters); pocket/xacto knives; hard balls; guns (cap, airgun (real or replicas), BB guns), laser instruments.
2. Any object used to threaten or intimidate another person.

### Playground Behavior:

#### Explanation:

1. Follow the "There are no excuses for hurting anyone." expectation.
2. Play safely in the designated playground area and on equipment.
3. Use assigned entry and exit doors.
4. Climbing fences, trees or any part of the building is not permitted.
5. Students are to ask permission from the teacher /supervisor on outside supervision to enter the building during all Fitness Breaks and before the morning entry bell.
6. No food or drink is permitted outside during Fitness Breaks.

### Appropriate Dress/Attire:

#### Explanation:

1. Ball caps are to be removed upon entering the school and left in his/her locker.
2. Appropriate footwear (hard sole shoes) must be worn at all times in the school building due to hygiene/safety reasons (in case of fire evacuations).
3. Appropriate gym attire and athletic footwear is required and worn during physical education as per teacher directive.
4. Students are not permitted to wear inappropriate clothing/attire which includes:
  - personal possessions bearing written statements or pictures that are offensive, degrading, racist, suggestive or refer to drug, alcohol and tobacco advertising.
  - shirts/skirts/pants that may expose the midriff (belly button),
  - halter tops, shirts with 'spaghetti straps' (shoulder straps must be at least three finger widths).

Student dress at any outside-of-school sanctioned functions/activities will follow the same Forestview School dress code.

### Fighting, Aggressive Behavior, Profane/Improper Language:

#### Explanation:

1. Bullying, physical/ sexual/verbal harassment/threatening is forbidden on school property.
2. Inappropriate remarks, swearing gestures, jokes, insults, innuendoes about gender, disabilities, religion, racial or ethnic background, color of skin, place of birth, citizenship or ancestry are not permitted.
3. Forestview School abides by the "No Body Contact" rule.

## Snowballing

### Explanation:

- 1 . Forestview School abides by the "No Excuses" guide since the potential danger for serious injury is too great to allow snowballing of any kind on school property or on the way to and from school.
2. Snowballing is very broadly defined, including the following: (throwing snowballs, 'ice' balls, chunks of ice, 'washing' faces or 'burying' students with snow, kicking snow at others, etc.).
3. Sliding on ice patches is not permitted.

### Conduct during Bus/Taxi Transportation:

#### Explanation:

- 1 . Be respectful to the bus driver (and abide by his/her rules) and his/her authority.
2. Keep windows closed unless the driver gives permission to open them.
3. Do not throw objects either in the bus or out the window.
4. Talk quietly (noise can be a hazardous distraction to the driver) always using appropriate language.
5. Keep aisles clear.
6. Harassment/intimidation/bullying will not be tolerated.
7. Eating or drinking is not permitted on the bus.
8. Remain in your seat at all times.

## Nutrition/Fitness Break Procedures:

### *Explanation:*

1. All students, with the exception of those who regularly go home for lunch during the second Nutrition/Fitness Break, will remain on school property from the time of arrival in the morning until dismissal. A permission to leave form must be signed at the beginning of the school year giving permission to the student to eat off of school property during the second Nutrition Break.
2. Students are expected to abide by rules set forth in the Nutrition Break Contract signed at the beginning of the school year. Students will share the responsibility for keeping lunch facilities clean, use appropriate manners, keep their voices at a conversation level and recycle appropriate materials.
3. All students are expected to remain in their seats in the designated eating area during Nutrition Break.
4. All students are expected to obey and be respectful toward the Yard Supervisors who are on duty.
5. Students are not permitted inside the school prior to school or during Fitness Breaks, without the permission of a teacher/supervisor who is on outside supervision duty.
6. Food products/beverages are not allowed on the playground.
7. Refrain from bringing food products containing nut ingredients or peanut oil.

Forestview Public School:

*"Learning and Growing Together"*