



## Code of Respectful Behaviour

Our School's Code of Student Behaviour is based on these guiding principles:

- Students will be provided a safe and protected environment which enables learning and allows equity of opportunity for growth.
- Students participating in an educational program actively contribute to an environment that allows learners to develop their individual potential.

### General School Conduct

Students are expected to treat one another with consideration and respect for their differences. No one has the right to hurt another's feelings or body. Our school is expected to be a safe and caring environment where all can enjoy the programs and activities offered.

This means that our school does **NOT** permit

- fighting,
- bullying, or
- intimidating behaviour.

Students and adults will work with each other in a courteous manner.

Students are expected to use sound judgment in their choice of activities. We expect that students will treat the school and grounds with respect. Students are expected to recognize that some activities might lead to injury and are thus not acceptable. These activities include, but are not limited to, such behaviours as play fighting or throwing objects in and around the school.

Students are expected to remain on the school grounds at all times unless given specific permission to leave. Leaving the school grounds is not permitted unless accompanied by a parent or guardian, and/or appropriate arrangements have been made, and agreed to, by the parent/guardian and the school. Such leaving would also include written or spoken permission by the parents or guardian. All students leaving before the end of the school day must be signed out at the office by a parent or guardian.



## **Classroom Conduct**

Students are expected to participate in classroom lessons by

- listening carefully,
- following directions,
- completing assignments, and
- co-operating with the other students and adults who may be part of that classroom environment.

It is expected that students shall actively participate in all classroom activities. Students are to treat the physical classroom with respect and to maintain furniture, textbooks, and other school materials in proper and undamaged condition. We expect that students will respect the rights of others in the classroom. Students must be able to have their materials and belongings left in a personal place, without fear of loss or damage.

## **Field Trips To or From School**

Leaving the school grounds places an increased demand on staff to ensure student safety. Students travelling on field trips or sporting excursions are expected to listen carefully at all times to teachers and designated supervisors. Supervisors are expected to be able to focus on the safe participation of all our students, instead of being distracted by individuals who choose not to follow directions. Students are expected to follow our school behaviour policy at all times.

## **Lunch Eating Period**

The lunch period should be a pleasant and relaxing time for all students. To ensure this, all students are to exhibit appropriate eating behaviour and to speak to each other using “inside voices”. While eating, students should remain in their seats. Students should leave a clean desk and floor area and should appropriately dispose of garbage. As well, students are encouraged to follow the 3 R’s of Reduce, Re-use, and Recycle.

Playground Students are encouraged to develop “open and inclusive” games so that all interested players are able to participate. Games must not involve actions that include hitting or rough physical contact. Classroom equipment is provided at the beginning of the year, but will not be replaced if students neglect it, or fail to bring it back in. Climbing bars and adventure apparatus are provided on the grounds. Students are required to use caution on the apparatus at all times. Games of tag through or in the vicinity of playground apparatus are not permitted.



## Safe Arrivals and Departures

Students are to arrive no earlier than 8:30 a.m., at which time, supervision is provided (unless involved in a school activity). The bell rings and the day begins at 8:45 a.m. Supervision is also provided from 3:00 – 3:15 p.m. Students must leave the school grounds immediately after wards and go directly home, unless waiting for transportation or involved in extra-curricular activity.

Volunteer Crossing Guards are on duty from 8:15 to 8:45 a.m. to ensure safe pedestrian crossing on Mill and Josephine. Students walking or bike riding, to and from school, will use crosswalks and obey all traffic regulations. All students will use the walkway on the school side of the road up to the crosswalk before heading off to different locations.

All students travelling by car must be dropped off and picked up in the designated area on Mill Street (main entrance of school) or on Josephine Street (in front of playground). The parking zone on Josephine is *Loading and Unloading only* – drivers must remain in vehicles.

Bussing students will walk to and from the public school bus stop on the 400 Block of Mill Street to the main entrance of the school where they sign in at the office.

## Consequences Related to Unacceptable Behaviour

All of us, children and students alike, make choices about how to react to any set of circumstances. Children make positive and negative choices as they interact with others. This is a “normal” part of growing and learning. Negative choices can be opportunities to learn and grow in social skills.

The first line of discipline is to have the students:

- identify the unacceptable behaviour,
- discuss why the behaviour was not acceptable, and
- determine what choices are open to them the next time they find themselves in similar circumstances.

We want children to be clearly aware of expectations. Classroom teachers begin the year by sharing classroom and school expectations with students. These expectations are reviewed throughout the year both in the classroom and at assemblies. In each classroom, teachers design a system that establishes the consequences for students who make inappropriate choices in behaviour. These consequences are designed to help students realize that they are choosing behaviours that do not meet our school’s expectations with regard to the learning environment, safety, or consideration of feelings.



The consequences might include:

- writing a reflection paper,
- serving a detention, or
- completing missed work at recess or lunch.

Students are given a limited number of opportunities to make acceptable choices. Teachers will implement an alternative set of consequences to help students realize that changes are necessary in their chosen reaction to classroom expectations.

When there are indications that poor behaviour or work habits are limiting the student's progress, parents will be informed. No predetermined number of chances will exist before moving to the next level of discipline. Instead, the nature of the unacceptable behaviour and the student's attitude will be taken into consideration at the time.

When regular classroom consequences and teacher-parent discussions do not seem to be effective in curbing the inappropriate behaviour, the principal will conference with the student. At this stage, parents will be informed at the discretion of the principal.

Frequently a Plan of Action will be created involving the student, parents, teachers, and administration. The principal will document each discipline referral from a teacher.

When the actions of a student demonstrate a serious disregard for the expectations of our school, even though the student has been afforded opportunities to make appropriate choices, the student might receive an "in-school" suspension. The length of the suspension will vary according to the nature of the inappropriate behaviour. Longer suspensions or "out-of-school" suspensions will be considered in serious situations where the safety of others is a concern.

For incidents involving serious aggressive or inappropriate behaviour, counseling might be required before the student returns to school. If a student repeatedly chooses to disregard St. Joseph School's Code of Respectful Behaviour, he/she might be asked to withdraw from the school permanently. (refer to a policy CISND 4210)



## **Behavioural Expectations**

Inside the school building, students are expected to:

- ♣ Follow the directions of teachers, supervisors and support staff
- ♣ Show respect for others and their belongings
- ♣ Move quietly between classes
- ♣ Walk in classrooms, hallways, and on stairways
- ♣ Work conscientiously and complete all assigned work
- ♣ Be responsible for cleaning up

Outside the school building, students are expected to:

- ♣ Remain within sight of the duty supervisors
- ♣ Remain on school property and in designated areas
- ♣ Participate only in safe and non-contact activities
- ♣ Restrict play to areas where there is no danger of injury or damage to property
- ♣ Line up promptly and quietly as soon as the bell rings in preparation for entering the school building



## Unacceptable Behaviours

The following behaviours are unacceptable and will generally be handled internally by teachers and/or school administration. Parents may or may not be contacted depending on the frequency and severity of the behaviour.

- ♣ Running in classrooms, hallways, on stairways, or on walkways
- ♣ Throwing objects like rocks or snowballs
- ♣ Climbing trees, fences, or the school building
- ♣ Defying authority
- ♣ Defacing school or personal property
- ♣ Play-fighting and rough play

The following behaviours are unacceptable and will involve school administration. Parents will be contacted and suspension from school or expulsion of the student may result, depending on the frequency and severity of the offence.

- ♣ Disobedience to Teachers or Staff members and/or School Rules
- ♣ Disobedience to School Rules
- ♣ Swearing or using inappropriate language
- ♣ Fighting
- ♣ Bullying through intimidating actions or harassment of others
- ♣ Stealing
- ♣ Possession and/or use of any weapon (weapon is defined as any instrument designed, or used, to injure or intimidate another person)
- ♣ Possession and/or use of alcohol and restricted or illicit drugs



Please keep pages 1-6 for your reference. A digital copy can be found on our website: **[www.stjosephnelson.ca/publications.php](http://www.stjosephnelson.ca/publications.php)** under DOWNLOADS - "St. Joseph Code of Respectful Behaviour".

Please return this page (one per family) with parent/guardian and student(s) signatures.

I have read the Code of Respectful Behaviour for 2023-2024 and have reviewed it with my child(ren).

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Student Name(s)

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Student Signature(s)

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Parent/Guardian Name(s)

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Parent/Guardian Signature(s)

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Date

PLEASE RETURN THIS SIGNED PAGE TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE  
523 Mill Street, Nelson, BC, V1L 4S2  
Phone: 250-352-3041  
Email: [stjosephnelson@cisnd.ca](mailto:stjosephnelson@cisnd.ca)