***Martin Morigeau Elementary School***

***Code of Conduct***

Our Code of Conduct helps our school to be a safe and caring environment, where all students are encouraged to create, think and learn. Our code of conduct is based on three pillars:

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| I can take care of myself. | I can take care of others. | I can take care of this place. |

**I can take care of myself by:**

* Taking responsibility for my words and actions
* Speaking positively about myself
* Asking for help when I need:
  + a break
  + materials or tools
  + instructions repeated
* Being “ready to learn” and participating to the best of my ability in all activities
* Attending school every day
* Getting enough sleep and choosing healthy foods
* Exercising regularly and spending time outdoors
* Following adult directions
* Keeping my space organized and tidy
* Leaving my cellphone at home or in my backpack while I’m at school
* Using playground equipment safely and appropriately (I can follow the recess rules).

**I can take care of others by:**

* Welcoming everyone with kind words and a smile
* Using school-appropriate language
* Telling the truth
* Including others, cooperating, and treating everyone with respect
* Caring about the needs of others and accepting their differences
* Valuing the feelings, ideas, stories, and experiences shared by others
* Actively listening to understand the views of others
* Respecting the learning needs of others
* Waiting and taking turns
* Going to a teacher or trusted adult when others are being unsafe
* Keeping my body to myself
* Playing fairly and by the rules
* Being a good digital citizen.

**I can take care of this place by:**

* Showing care and respect for the natural world
* Only taking the supplies I need and using them wisely
* Being respectful of other people’s belongings
* Behaving appropriately in shared spaces
* Cleaning up after myself and others
* Taking pride in the appearance of my school and community
* Putting garbage in its place.

**BC Human Rights Code Requirements**

In accordance with the BC Human Rights Code, discrimination on any of the following grounds is prohibited:

* Race
* Colour
* Ancestry
* Place of Origin
* Religion
* Marital Status
* Family Status
* Physical or mental disability
* Physical appearance
* Sex
* Sexual orientation
* Gender identity or expression

Bullying will not be tolerated at MMES. Bullying is when someone **repeatedly** hurts or scares another person on purpose. It can include actions such as:

* Punching, shoving and other acts that hurt people physically
* Spreading bad rumours about people
* Keeping certain people out of a group
* Teasing people in a mean way
* Getting certain people to “gang up” on others

**Intervention**

If I am unable to follow our school’s **Code of Conduct**, my teachers and the principal will help me learn to make better choices. They will always start by giving me a reminder and a chance to change my behaviour. If that does not work, they may choose to:

* Contact my parents;
* Give me some calm-down time;
* Provide a different space in the school where I can work;
* Remove privileges (such as going outside for recess, participating in extra-curricular activities, etc.) until I have shown I can manage myself;
* Help me make a plan for how I am going to make things right;

If I am being unsafe or I have intentionally hurt someone, I will have to go home. That’s because every person in our school deserves to feel safe. When I return to school, school staff will help me make things right with those I have hurt. When I have done my repair work, I will be welcomed back by our school community, who all care about me, and want me to be successful at school.

If someone is choosing bullying behaviour, parents will be contacted. The person bullying someone else will be required to stay at home until a clear plan can be put in place.  That person will be removed from situations where they have contact with the victim, which could mean that they will lose recess privileges, or be moved to a different class, or a different school. The school will work with the family to access community services, such as police and counselling, to help the person to understand the impact of their actions and make better choices.

**Principal Responsibility**

School Administration has a responsibility to advise other parties of serious breaches in the code of conduct. These parties may include:

* Parents of the student offender – in every instance
* Parents of the victim – in every instance
* School district officials – as required by district policy
* Police and other agencies – as required by law

We recognize that special considerations may apply to students with unique needs who are unable to comply with expectations due to having a disability of an intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional or behavioural nature.

Our code of conduct is reviewed and updated annually with staff, students and parents (PAC), and is sent home for family review at the beginning of each school year.