

# FW Howay Community School Student Code of Conduct

This code of conduct was finalized in March 2008 with input from students, staff, and parents. Its purpose is to provide a safe environment for everyone on the way to and from school and at school. It is designed to encourage talking, listening to understand each other's points of view and self-reflection.

## **Acceptable Conduct – with increasing age and maturity students are able to:**

### **Be Respectful** – in the words of our students

- Use appropriate language
- Respect yourself, others and school property
- Treat others the way you want to be treated in an honest way
- Respect other people's points of view and listen to understand them
- Let others play with you
- Be open to change

### **Be Responsible** – in the words of our students

- Be self-disciplined, cooperative, and use kind words
- Respect people from other countries and cultures, give them a chance to contribute, and help them belong
- Come to school on time and contribute to your class, school, and home
- Be passionate about learning so that you will always be proud of yourself
- Provide your ideas during class discussions and activities
- Stay away from students engaging in violence and report unsafe behaviour to staff
- Walk in halls and classes
- Dress properly
- Think about others feelings and your safety when using the internet

### **Be Safe** – in the words of our students

- Contribute to acts of positive behaviour at school, at home and all around you
- Cooperate with others and act in a responsible way
- Be sensitive to others needs
- Keep your hands to yourself
- Only talk to people you know and trust
- Stay inside school grounds and with people you know during school hours
- Be aware of dangerous situations. Avoid hazardous objects, unsupervised activity on the internet, and students engaging in violence
- Tell an adult about any situation that bothers you or is unsafe

## **Unacceptable Conduct**

Any behaviour that interferes with another person's ability to learn, to teach, or to feel physically or emotionally safe is unacceptable conduct. Some examples of such behaviour include but are not limited to: name calling, physical or verbal aggression, isolating others, creating unsafe conditions for learning or play.

## **Process for Dealing with Infractions to the School Code of Conduct – Outlined Below**

We move from one step to the next as needed if there is no resolution previously. The severity and frequency of unacceptable conduct as well as the age and the maturity of students is considered in determining the consequences. Staff may choose to omit steps in extreme situations.

1. Conferencing & Student Reflection on Behaviour – plan between staff and students involved only
2. Parent/Guardian Contact – method of contact depends on individual staff preference – e.g. student planner, phone call, note, or meeting. An informal action plan for improvement is developed.
3. Consultation – referral to School Based Team for problem solving – may include personnel beyond the school
4. Alternatives – meeting with staff, parent/guardian and usually the child to develop a written action plan if behavior continues or escalates
5. Suspensions – in extreme situations there may be a combination of in-school and home suspensions that are discussed with the parent/guardian and documented with an emphasis on protecting student and staff safety. In some cases, district staff, the police or other agencies would be contacted if the situation warranted doing so.

March 5, 2008