

Provisions of the School Act related to the following policies are currently being challenged as unconstitutional before the courts. Consequently, these policies are subject to continuing review.

DEVON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Rationale:

Devon Christian School believes that all students are created in the image of God and are entitled to welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe learning environments that develop godliness, strength of character, compassion for others, a heart of service, commitment to excellence, and reverence for God.

Policy:

1. Students shall be treated with dignity, respect, and fairness by other students and staff.
2. Students shall be provided with a learning environment that is free from physical, emotional, and social abuse.
3. Students and parents shall be informed of the board's and school's expectations for student behaviour within the school, the school grounds, and during school activities.
4. Students shall be provided with appropriate support and guidance related to social, academic, spiritual, and emotional needs, as determined by school personnel in consultation with parents.
5. In the event of student misbehaviour, students and parents shall have the right to offer an explanation, and to be informed about consequences of misbehaviour.
6. Students shall exercise their responsibilities to:
 - a. Use their abilities and talents to gain maximum learning benefits from their school experiences.
 - b. Contribute to a climate of mutual trust and respect conducive to effective learning, personal development, and social living.
 - c. Attend school regularly and punctually
7. Appropriate opportunities for student consultation and involvement in student related matters will be provided.

STUDENT CONDUCT

Rationale:

The board supports the endeavours of staff, students, parents, and the community to ensure positive student behaviour and conduct, in a manner consistent with Scripture. In addition, the board expects parents and students to recognize their responsibility in developing student self-discipline. Accordingly, the Devon Christian School has established the **Student Conduct Policy**.

Policy:

1. Students shall be responsible and accountable for their behaviour and conduct:
 - a. While involved in school-sponsored or related activities
 - b. While on school property
 - c. In their interaction with peers, staff, volunteers, and guests to the school
 - d. During any recess or lunch periods on or off school property
 - e. While traveling to and from school

- f. Beyond the hours of school operation if the behaviour or conduct detrimentally affects the welfare of individual students or the governance, climate, or efficiency of the school.
2. Parents play a vital role in developing student behaviour and conduct. It is Devon Christian School's expectation that parents:
 - a. Be aware of the board policy and regulations and the school's expectations for student behaviour and conduct.
 - b. Review the board policy and regulations and the school's expectations for student behaviour and conduct with their child(ren).
 - c. Work with the school to resolve student behavioural issues when they affect their child(ren).
 - d. Cooperate with the school's recommended course of action prior to re-admission of the student following a student suspension.
 3. Students shall show respect for:
 - a. All individuals, without discriminating on the basis of any of the protected grounds in the *Alberta Human Rights Act*, Section 4
 - b. School and school property
 - c. Property of others
 - d. School attendance and punctuality
 - e. Work habits, assignments, and homework
 - f. Textbooks and equipment
 - g. Fire alarms and safety equipment
 - h. School policies relating to smoking, alcohol, drugs, and inhalants
 4. Failure to meet the expectations for behaviour and conduct shall result in some or all of the following consequences:
 - a. Problem solving, monitoring or reviewing behaviour expectations with student and reprimand
 - b. Parental involvement
 - c. Referral to attendance board
 - d. Temporary removal of privileges
 - e. Detention of student
 - f. Temporary exclusion of student from class
 - g. In-school suspension
 - h. Out-of-school suspension (maximum 5 days)
 - i. Behaviour contract with student
 - j. Restitution for property damage to an individual or board
 - k. Assessment of student to develop appropriate programming
 - l. Involvement of police
 - m. Expulsion from school
 5. Grounds for disciplinary action that could lead to suspension or expulsion exist where a student has demonstrated unacceptable behaviour such as:
 - a. Conduct which threatens the safety of students and/or staff
 - b. Possession of a weapon on a student's person, or in a student's locker or desk, that is dangerous to students and staff. A weapon is anything used, designed to be used or intended for use in causing death or injury to any person, or for the purpose of threatening or intimidating any person.
 - c. Displaying or brandishing a weapon in a threatening or intimidating manner
 - d. Assaulting another person
 - e. "Bullying" which means repeated and hostile or demeaning behaviour by an individual in the school community where the behaviour is intended to cause harm, fear or distress to one or more other individuals in the school community, including psychological harm or harm to an individual's reputation. Bullying behaviours may include name calling, exclusion, inappropriate language, threats, gestures, innuendos, or intimidation, in person, and online.
 - f. Possession or use of illegal drugs, alcohol, or inhalants in school and on school property

- g. Contravention of school policies and regulations related to student harassment, smoking, student attendance, and student rights and responsibilities
 - h. Theft
 - i. Willful disobedience and/or open opposition to authority
 - j. Use or display of improper or profane language
 - k. Willful damage to school or others' property
 - l. Interfering with the orderly conduct of class(es) or the school
 - m. Trespassing, loitering, and causing a disturbance on or in school property
 - n. Use of technology such as computers, cameras, cell phones, and other digital equipment for purposes that are illegal, unethical, immoral, or inappropriate
6. Based on the board policy and regulations for student behaviour and conduct, school administration shall develop and communicate to parents and students expectations for student behaviour and conduct.
7. The student's age, maturity, and individual circumstances shall be taken into account when consequences for unacceptable behaviour are given.
8. Support shall be provided for students who engage in appropriate behaviour and also for those students who are impacted by inappropriate behaviour.
9. The principal shall communicate annually, to students and parents, the board policy and regulations and the school's expectations for student behaviour and conduct.
10. Principals shall report to police the names of all persons for whom they have reasonable and probable grounds to believe are trafficking in drugs. The principal shall:
- a. Inform the parents of students involved
 - b. Proceed with disciplinary measures which may lead to suspensions or expulsions
11. Devon Christian School shall participate in the School Action for Emergencies (S.A.F.E.), as outlined by the local R.C.M.P.