

# RAVEN'S CODE OF CITIZENSHIP

## Statement of Purpose

Caring, safety and order provide the foundation for a thriving learning environment. At Rosedale Traditional Community School we are committed to creating a safe, welcoming and dynamic learning environment. This Code of Citizenship is designed to build and sustain a school community that values and fosters respect, inclusion, fairness and equity. Therefore all members of the school community shall not discriminate against others on the basis of race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, family or marital status, physical or mental disability, age, sex or sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, or for any other reason set out in the Human Rights Code of British Columbia, nor shall a student publish or display anything that would indicate an intention to discriminate against another, or expose them to contempt or ridicule on the basis of any such grounds. All reasonable steps will be taken to prevent retaliation against a student who has made a complaint of a breach in the Code of Conduct. Appropriate behaviour is a shared responsibility among students, their parents/guardians/caregivers and the school system.

## # 1. Caring

A caring school is one in which members of the school community feel a sense of belonging and have opportunities to relate to one another in kind, positive and supportive ways. All aspects of school life embrace and reflect diversity. The school is an inviting place for students, staff, parents, and visitors.

## Respect for Self and others

I have the **right** to learn in a safe, caring environment and be treated with kindness and respect.

I have the responsibility to treat all individuals with kindness and respect, regardless of their differences.

Why?

Every person should feel valued, be treated respectfully, and be free of harassment. Therefore, I will not engage in behaviours such as rudeness, intimidation, bullying, fighting, or inappropriate physical displays of affection.

## Positive, Supportive Learning Environment

I have the **right** to a positive and supportive learning environment.

I have the **responsibility** to demonstrate a commitment to my learning and to a positive and supportive learning environment.

Why?

A positive, supportive learning environment is necessary for success. Therefore, I will actively engage in the learning process, come to class on time prepared to learn, and complete all class and homework assignments.

## Appropriate Language

I have the **right** to be spoken to in a respectful manner.

I have the **responsibility** to speak politely and use language and tone of voice that is respectful to all members of the school community.

Why?

Being able to use appropriate and respectful language is a valuable life skill. When language is offensive to others, hurt feelings may lead to further conflict. Therefore, I will not engage in name calling, yelling, swearing, or crude, rude or obscene language, whether it is spoken, written, implied or gestured.

## Respect for School, Public, and Private Property

I have the **right** to a clean and well-maintained school-learning environment.

I have the **responsibility** to clean up after myself and respect school property, as well as the property of staff, students and the people who live in our neighbourhood.

Why?

Taking care of the school and its surroundings demonstrates pride in the school. A clean school offers a healthy and pleasant place to learn and work. Therefore, I will use garbage cans and recycling bins appropriately. All students and staff should feel that their personal belongings are safe at school. I will respect school property and other people's belongings, and I will be accountable for any intentional damage.

## Lockers

Lockers are the property of the school district and under certain circumstances may be inspected by school authorities if reasonable cause exists. Students may only use their assigned locker and will keep the combination private. Lost locks have a replacement fee of \$6.00. Students could lose the privilege of having a locker if they tamper other people's locker or violate school policy. All backpacks should remain in student lockers and do not belong in class.

## Valuables

Students should not bring large amounts of money or valuable items to school. If they do, they are responsible for the safekeeping. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen articles. **KEEP YOUR POSSESSIONS LOCKED UP, INCLUDING IN THE P.E. CHANGE ROOM.**

## #2. Safe

A safe school feels welcoming and open and is one in which members of the school community are free of the fear of harm, including potential threats from inside or outside the school. The attitudes and actions of students, staff and parents support an environment that is resistant to disruption and intrusion and ensures a focus on student success.

## Bullying, Cyber-bullying and Misuse of Electronics

I have the **right** to be in a learning environment that is free from bullying, harassment, or intimidation that takes place in person, online or using electronic devices.

I have the **responsibility** to treat others with respect, and use online resources and electronic devices (social networking sites, blogs, e-mail and messaging services, cameras, etc.) in an appropriate manner.

Why?

Violence has no place at school. Intimidation or bullying in any way will not be tolerated. Therefore, I will not be involved in any form of bullying or intimidation and will report it when I see it. I will not be involved in posting photos and or derogatory messages or comments about others in any electronic forum. I will not be involved in sending inappropriate or hurtful messages to other individuals online. I will refrain from taking pictures or video of any individual at school unless I have permission to do so.

## Closed Campus

I have the **right** to be safe at school during my school day.

I have the **responsibility** to get to school and class on time and stay on campus when I am here.

Why?

The safety and security of students is of the utmost importance. School administration is legally responsible for student safety and whereabouts during the school day. Therefore I must bring written permission from my parent or guardian (or have a parent speak directly to office staff) in order to leave the school grounds.

## Visitors

Parents are always welcome to visit the school. All visitors need to report to the office. The only students allowed in the building at any time are RTCS students.

## Bikes, Skateboards, Scooters, etc.

I have the **right** to be in a safe environment that does not pose threats to my physical well-being.

I have the **responsibility** to walk my bike, carry my scooter, and/or skateboard on school property.

Why?

The use of the above equipment or other wheeled vehicles on school property can be dangerous to the students themselves as well as others. Therefore I will walk my bike or carry my scooter, and/or skateboard on school property during the school day.

## School and Public Buses

I have the **right** to be safe and respected while riding any bus to and from school, or when on a field trip or an extra-curricular activity.

I have the **responsibility** to follow the school bus guidelines established by School District No. 33. I also have a responsibility to represent my school in a positive manner.

Why?

The safety of students is a main concern. Therefore, as a responsible citizen of the school I will abide by this Code of Conduct when riding a school bus. I will get on and off the bus in a safe manner, ride facing calmly forward, and follow any directions given to me by the bus driver or other adult supervisor.

## Alcohol, Drugs, Tobacco, Vapourizers, etc.

I have the **right** to be in a healthy learning environment free of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, and vapourizers.

I have the **responsibility** not to be in possession of, under the influence of, or involved in providing to others: alcohol, drugs, tobacco, and vapourizers at any time at school or during any school function.

Why?

For our own protection and the protection of others, the law forbids the use or possession of these substances by students. Therefore, I will not be in possession of, under the influence of, or involved in providing to others alcohol, drugs, tobacco, E-cigarettes or vapourizers. I understand that forbidden items include, but are not limited to: alcohol, illicit drugs as defined under the Criminal Code of Canada; unauthorized prescription drugs, and other chemical substances which impair a person's judgement and ability to participate appropriately in the learning environment established by the school.

## Weapons (including replicas), Violence, or Intimidation

I have the **right** to be in a learning environment that is free from weapons, violence (acts or threats of), bullying, cyberbullying or intimidation.

I have the **responsibility** to not be in possession of any weapons (including replicas), fireworks, or any other illegal items nor be involved in violence (acts or threats of), bullying, cyberbullying or intimidation. I have a responsibility to report to school staff if I believe there are acts of violence, threats of violence, bullying, cyberbullying, intimidation, or if there is a weapon in the school.

Why?

Weapons, violence (acts or threats of), bullying, cyberbullying and intimidation will not be tolerated at school. Therefore, I will refrain from any involvement with weapons, fireworks or any other illegal items, and I will not be involved in any acts of violence, threats or intimidation. I will report violence, weapons, intimidation or threats to individuals' safety immediately to school staff.

## #3. Respectful Environment

A respectful learning environment is created when school is orderly and members of the school community are informed about and exercise their rights and responsibilities as school citizens. Expectations about acceptable behaviour, respect and decorum are generally understood. Responses to violations are based consistently on sound principles and are appropriate to the context.

## Attendance

I have the **right** to attend school without excessive disruptions.  
I have the **responsibility** to attend all my classes and be punctual.

Why?

Success comes through respect, responsibility, honesty, trust and fairness. The most basic level of student responsibility is attending school. Therefore, I will be present and on time to the best of my ability, and I will bring in a note from my parents/guardian if I have been sick at home. I will also sign in or out if I am late to school or leaving early.

# Dress Code

RTCS requires students to wear prescribed clothing while at school. Students remain in uniform during their day at RTCS until they arrive at home at the end of the day. There are two places that students can purchase official uniform clothing: Sapphire Creative in Chilliwack and through the RTCS Athletic office. The dress code applies to all RTCS students:

## STUDENTS:

- Elementary Grades (K-5) – RTCS T-Shirt: Red or Black
- Middle Grades (6-8) – RTCS Uniform Shirt
- Zippered hooded sweatshirt with school logo
- Black or grey hooded sweatshirt with “RAVENS” sport logo
- Solid colour bottoms

## ATHLETIC UNIFORM 4-8 (Purchased at school):

- T-Shirt with “RAVENS” logo (grey or red)
- Black shorts with white “RAVENS” logo
- Black or grey hooded sweatshirt with “RAVENS” logo (optional)
- Black sweatpants with “RAVENS” logo (optional)

## CASUAL DAY/SPIRIT DAY GUIDELINES:

- Clothes must be school appropriate
- No clothing with profanity or advertisement of drugs or alcohol
- No underwear showing

## Personal Electronic Devices – See Electronic Device Guidelines

## Student Movement and Designated Areas

I have the **right** to attend an orderly and safe school.

I have the **responsibility** to demonstrate orderly and safe conduct.

Why?

Students should be able to enjoy a peaceful and orderly environment. Therefore I will walk in the hallways, be respectful of people's personal space, and be in the areas that are designated for my grade at any given time during the school day.

# Interventions and Consequences

Regardless of the nature or location of the misconduct, or the staff member involved, the following is a range of interventions and consequences that will be used at Rosedale Traditional:

1. On-the-spot conference or redirection.
2. Follow-up meeting between the student(s) and staff member(s).
3. Contact with parent or guardian.
4. Restitution, including a logical remedy for the problem (e.g. paying for damage willfully caused) and supporting anyone who is a victim or who suffers because of the student's actions.
5. Supportive intervention and/or service to school.
6. Additional time for the student with the teacher or office (detention).
7. Mediation or restorative practice.
8. Referral to counselling, administration, and/or community support services.
9. Serious or repeated indiscretions are reported directly to the vice-principal or principal.

Administration response may include steps 1–7 above, but response to serious or repeated indiscretions will be consistent with school and district policy. Where students refuse to cooperate with staff directions and school expectations, as repeat offenders or through single incidents, parents will be involved, and a suspension may result. As well, suspensions will be strongly considered and parents and police will be involved where chargeable offences occur (fighting, threatening, assault, willful damage, possession or use of weapons, theft, tampering with fire alarms, possession or influence of drugs or alcohol). Special consideration may apply to students with special needs.

## Sequence of Consequences

The range of responses is not necessarily sequential. This means that the point at which an intervention begins will vary with the severity of the incident, and that not all steps are necessary in all situations. For example, a teacher may simply confer with a student or may refer the matter to counselling or administration. Some issues, such as classroom misbehaviour, may result in sequential elevation up the scale, depending on the student's response to teacher intervention. On the other hand, major infractions such as fighting, involvement with alcohol, etc. may be elevated directly to step 9.