

Code of Conduct
for
Parents and Guardians



“Were we to know the merit of only going from one street to another to serve a neighbor for the love of God, we should prize it more than gold or silver.”

Edmund Rice - August 10, 1806



VANCOUVER COLLEGE

5400 Cartier Street
Vancouver, BC V6M 3A5
604.261.4285
www.vc.bc.ca

PREAMBLE

A code of conduct evidences the values and vision of a school in which relationships are conducted in a respectful and dignified manner. Vancouver College shares the responsibilities with parents to develop students' personal and social skills to inculcate these values and achieve this vision.

As part of the Catholic Community at Vancouver College, we, the students, staff and parents, are expected to conduct all our relationships so that our actions will reflect the following Catholic Christian centred values and beliefs:

Individuality and Community

Caring and Compassion

Understanding and Forgiveness

Enthusiasm and Dedication

Achievement and Celebration

Respect and Harmony

Honesty and Integrity

Faithfulness and Reverence

Humility and Gratitude

As a consequence of this, each person in the Vancouver College Community:

- has the responsibility to participate in creating and maintaining a safe, positive faith and learning environment.
- has a right to be emotionally and physically safe while at school, while going to and from school, and while attending any school function.
- has a right to know that his personal belongings are safe and will not be interfered with.
- is expected to proclaim gospel values which affirm the dignity of all persons and promotes the achievement of peace in our community.
- has a right to expect that all in the community will participate in creating a safe, positive faith and learning community.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

BULLYING	Aggressive behaviour towards another person with negative intent, particularly where there is a power imbalance.
HARASSMENT	Any unwelcome or unwanted act or comment directed at another person that is hurtful, degrading, humiliating, or offensive.
INTIMIDATION	<p>An act designed to instill fear in another person as a means of controlling that person. The following are examples of bullying, harassment or intimidation:</p> <p><u>Discrimination</u> - such as judging or attacking a person because of their race, ethnic origin, or gender.</p> <p><u>Hazing</u> - such as inappropriate and unacceptable initiation practices for clubs or teams.</p> <p><u>Verbal Abuse</u> - such as insults, offensive jokes, put downs, making fun of, or mocking a person.</p> <p><u>Exclusion</u> - such as gossiping, spreading rumours, isolating a person, refusing to acknowledge a person, or trying to convince others to exclude or reject a person.</p> <p><u>Physical Aggression</u> - such as fighting, hitting, pushing, spitting.</p> <p><u>Retribution</u> - such as negative action against a person who has reported an incident to a parent, teacher, or the Administration.</p>

PARENTS & GUARDIANS

Every parent at Vancouver College shall:

- participate in creating a safe positive learning environment where faith and learning go hand in hand.
- work and cooperate with the school to resolve concerns with respect to the behaviour of students.
- communicate with the Administration if they suspect that their son is being, or may be, bullied, harassed, or intimidated.
- ensure that students come to school with only the required possessions and money.

- report any lost, stolen, or missing items to Assistant Principals.
- work and cooperate in partnership with the school to resolve concerns involving your children.
- model, teach, and reinforce appropriate student behaviour.
- conduct themselves in an orderly, respectful, and courteous manner at all times.
- encourage their son to commit to excellence in academics.

REPORTING VIOLATIONS OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT

Vancouver College recognizes that for a variety of reasons, including fear of retribution, students and parents are sometimes reluctant to report incidences of bullying, intimidation, harassment, theft, possession of drugs or weapons to the Administration. However without such information, the Administration is often unable to make an appropriate response.

Incidents can be reported to the Administrators in person but also over the phone, by e-mail or in any other way that is non-threatening.

Note that, in accordance with the *Code of Conduct for Staff*, every Vancouver College staff member has a responsibility to “treat information received from students or parents as confidential, taking such steps as the circumstances warrant to protect the source.”

SIGNATURE & ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I, _____, have read, understand, and agree to abide by the foregoing policies, values, and vision as set forth in the ***Vancouver College Code of Conduct for Parents and Guardians***.

Signature of Parent/Guardian



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