

# BRITANNIA SECONDARY SCHOOL CODE OF CONDUCT



## Statement of Purpose

- ◆ To establish and maintain a safe, caring and orderly environment for purposeful learning;
- ◆ To establish and maintain appropriate balances among individual and collective rights, freedoms and responsibilities;
- ◆ To clarify and publish expectations for student behaviour while at school, while going to and from school, while attending any school function or activity and/or in any circumstance which may impact on the school community.

### A. Conduct Expectations

Britannia Secondary School promotes the values expressed in the BC Human Rights Code respecting the rights of all individuals in accordance with the law prohibiting discrimination based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex or sexual orientation – in respect of discriminatory publication and discrimination in accommodation, service and facility in the school environment.

Britannia Secondary School is organized and operated on the assumption that students in a Grade 8 - 12 school are on the verge of adulthood and thus are attending with the desire to participate and learn. This means that students at Britannia must accept personal responsibility for learning, for attending classes, and for completing work assignments. In pursuing their education, students are expected to respect the rights of others. Students who have chosen to come to Britannia should understand that certain specific regulations must be enforced so that the school can operate in the best interests of all.

#### School Expectations for Britannia students:

##### 1. Participate in the school community.

- ▶ Gain the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to become a responsible and successful citizen.
- ▶ Conduct yourself in a manner that brings credit to your school.
- ▶ Support the democratic process through student elections.

##### 2. Be respectful and kind to others.

- ▶ Respect differences among people, including their ideas and opinions.
- ▶ Treat others with respect and dignity regardless of race, ancestry and place of origin, citizenship, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, colour and disability.
- ▶ Resolve conflicts and differences with respect in a non-violent way.
- ▶ Involve a mediator if necessary.
- ▶ Demonstrate honesty and integrity.

##### 3. Contribute to a safe and secure school environment.

- ▶ Keep people and property safe and secure.
- ▶ Know the school safety procedures for fire, earthquake evacuation or school lockdown.
- ▶ Be familiar with the location of safety equipment.
- ▶ Promptly report any situation or behaviour that could put people and property at risk.
- ▶ Place litter in garbage receptacles for re-useable items.

##### 4. Attend school regularly, be punctual and take responsibility for your studies.

- ▶ Maintain a positive attitude by communicating in the language of instruction.
- ▶ Use personal entertainment or communication devices, electronic dictionaries only when allowed by a teacher.
- ▶ Follow computer and on-line policies.
- ▶ Dress safely and in a manner that does not distract, disturb or offend others.

#### **5. Respect the learning environment.**

- ▶ Remain in class during instructional time.
- ▶ Do not interfere with classes that are in session.

#### **B. The school forbids:**

- ▶ Physical violence, intimidation or threats including cyber-bullying.
- ▶ Possession and/or use of illegal or restricted drugs including alcohol and cigarettes.
- ▶ Carrying or possessing weapons or simulated weapons.
- ▶ Verbal abuse, profanity, racist or sexist language.
- ▶ Plagiarism, vandalism and theft.
- ▶ Defiance of school authorities.

#### **Consequences and Disciplinary Procedures:**

A breach of these rules, including the defiance of school authority, will be viewed seriously. It may result in a disciplinary record, suspension, transfer or a combination of these consequences. In some cases, it may be appropriate for the school to involve the participation of parents/guardians, subject teachers, counsellors, administrators, VBE officials, community agencies, and the Police. Discipline can take a variety of forms, including: reprimand, detention, service work and loss of privileges. The school will treat seriously behaviour or communication that discriminates the values in the BC Human Rights Code.

#### **Rising Expectations and Consequences:**

Disciplinary action, wherever possible, is restorative, rather than punitive. As students become older, more mature and move through successive grades, they will assume increased personal responsibility and self-discipline.

#### **Notification:**

School officials have a responsibility to advise other parties of serious breaches of the code of conduct. These parties may include: staff, parents/guardians of a student, offender, parents/guardians of a student victim, school district officials, police and/or other agencies as required by law.