

## Edison School Student Code of Conduct and Discipline Policy

February 2018

*Edison School recognizes that the reward for, and appreciation of, good behaviour is an important part of establishing a cooperative learning environment that supports the well-being and safety of all participating members of the school community. Students are encouraged to make positive behavior choices and in doing so will learn to become responsible, caring members of our community.*

*The Edison Private School student and staff handbook is available on the school website. The Student Code of Conduct and Disciplinary procedures are included in these handbooks. All students in grades K – 8 have the pertinent information included annually in their school agenda. Students in Grades 9-12 are directed to the website as they are not provided with an agenda booklet.*

Unacceptable behaviour may be grounds for disciplinary action, and provides the student with an opportunity for critical learning and reflection in the areas of personal accountability and responsibility, the development of empathy, as well as communication, conflict resolution, and social skills development.

In the assessment of the potential consequences of unacceptable behaviour, the School shall also consider a student's age, maturity, individual circumstances, and frequency of the misconduct. In addition, the specific circumstances of the situation and of the student must be taken into account when determining appropriate responses to unacceptable behaviour.

The School will ensure that support is provided for students who are impacted by inappropriate behaviour, as well as for students who engage in inappropriate behaviour.

### **Students shall conduct themselves so as to reasonably comply with the following Code of Conduct:**

#### **Students will:**

- i. be diligent in pursuing their studies;
- ii. attend school regularly and punctually;
- iii. co-operate fully with everyone authorized by the board to provide education programs and other services;
- iv. comply with school rules;
- v. be accountable to their teachers for their conduct;
- vi. respect the rights of others;
- vii. ensure that they contribute positively to the environment and culture of Edison School.
- viii. refrain from, report and not tolerate bullying or bullying behaviour directed to others in the school, whether or not it occurs within the school building, during the school day, or by electronic means).

#### **Edison School Society Definition of bullying:**

Bullying is repeated verbal, physical, social or psychological behavior that is harmful and involves the misuse of power by an individual or group towards one or more persons. Cyberbullying refers to bullying through information and communication technology

***The following actions, although unacceptable in the Edison School community, are considered to be minor issues.***

- Disruptive or off-task behavior
- Tardiness and/or coming to class unprepared
- Failure to turn in signed agenda daily
- Failure to hand in homework on time
- Violation of uniform rules including immodest dress
- Possession of chewing gum
- Eating during class time unless there is a medical reason
- Unnatural hair dye and/or tattoos or body piercing
- Use of electronic equipment that violates the Electronic Equipment Policy
- Disrespect for others or oneself

#### ADDRESSING MINOR ISSUES

Each issue will be addressed on an individual basis by teachers and/or administrators and appropriate consequences applied if applicable. Consequences may include, but are not restricted to, loss of recess, detention, exclusion from class, confiscation of contraband items, community service or parent-teacher-student meeting.

Student success often requires consistency at home and in school. To that end, parents will be informed by telephone or written correspondence in a timely manner.

If the issues are not resolved and the student continues to break rules exclusion from Edison School will become a consideration.

***The following actions are major issues and completely unacceptable in the Edison School Community:***

- Vandalism
- Use of profane language
- Possession of lewd or inappropriate material
- Aggressive behavior including, but not restricted to, bullying whether in person during the school day or by electronic means, physical harm or assault upon others, harassment, hazing, gang activities, weapons in school, drug, tobacco and alcohol use, and improper conduct on busses or on field trips.
- Lying, cheating, or plagiarism
- Leaving the school grounds without permission

#### ADDRESSING MAJOR ISSUES

Each issue will be addressed on an individual basis by teachers and/or administrators and appropriate consequences applied. Consequences will vary as situations warrant, possibly resulting in suspension and/or expulsion. Appeals to suspension and/or expulsion must be provided in writing to the Edison disciplinary committee for review: Principal, Headmistress, and one board member.

