



### Rationale

St. Catherine's is committed to providing a safe and respectful environment in which all students can strive for academic excellence, personal growth (spiritually, emotionally and physically) and responsible citizenship. Responsibility to promote Christian conduct is shared by students, staff and parents.

A safe and respectful environment is fostered when:

- Students feel safe;
- There is mutual respect among staff, students and parents;
- Parents, students and staff take an active role in promoting acceptance and tolerance of all persons;
- Appropriate conduct is taught and modeled;
- Disciplinary action is to be restorative in nature and just;
- Diagnosed disabilities are taken into consideration;
- Family special circumstances are considered.

At St. Catherine's we look to Jesus as our model and expect everyone to act in a Christ-like manner. The three guiding principles of our school code of conduct are:

- **Respect** treat others with respect and dignity by our words and actions
- **Responsibility** demonstrate responsibility by doing our part in the classroom and in the school
- **Reverence** show reverence while praying, especially during Mass

This applies to students, staff and parents during regular school hours and school sponsored activities.

### Policy

St. Catherine's has developed a Student Code of Conduct with input from students, staff and parents to inform the school community of expected conduct for students based on the principles of respect for the rights and dignity of all persons in order to promote a safe and respectful learning environment. The Student Code of Conduct is reviewed annually.

### Procedure

Students of St. Catherine's school are expected to (but not limited to):

Generally

- Respect those in positions of rightful authority.
- Follow instructions given by staff members and volunteers.
- Know and obey the school's policies and rules.
- Respect the rights and dignity of all persons in the school community.
- Refrain from participating in or promoting any behavior that would threaten, harass, bully, intimidate, assault (verbally and/or physically) or cause harm to any person.
- Report incidents of bullying (see definition of "bullying" below) or harassment that they witness in the school or at school activities.
- Refrain from abusive/suggestive language (e.g. language that degrades someone's dignity because of race, religion, ethnicity, culture, sexual self identity, disability and/or socio-economic background).
- Refrain from misuse of computer technology, including personal electronic devices and/or multi-media electronic devices (see definition of "personal electronic devices" below).
- Work and socialize cooperatively and appropriately with everyone in the school community.
- Not be in possession or be under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol and not be in possession of weapons in school or at school activities.
- Respect all property.
- Arrive punctually and attend school regularly.
- Be prepared and have the necessary books, materials and assignments.
- Make a sincere, concerted effort to do well in studies.
- Participate attentively and reverently in all religious observances.
- Exhibit reverent and charitable behavior towards staff, peers and guests at all times.



- Wear the school uniform properly at all times.
- Use appropriate and respectful language at all times
- Avoid inappropriate and disrespectful behavior at all times.
- Remain within the playground area or school building unless granted permission to leave.

#### Hallway and School Entrances

- Walk at all times.
- Between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. the main entrance is to be used only by adults and the general public. At recess and lunchtime students may use the main entrance to access the washroom.
- Enter classrooms in the morning through the door specified by the teacher.

#### Washrooms

- Use during regular classroom breaks whenever possible.
- Keep tidy.
- Dispose of used paper products in waste containers.

#### School Grounds

- Skateboards, scooters and roller blades are not permitted.
- Students will not be permitted to leave school grounds on a bicycle without an approved helmet.

#### Gymnasium

- Students must not enter the gym without permission.

#### Field Trips

- Expectations of students on field trips are the same as in the school.

#### Parent Supervision

- When parents are assisting in student supervision, whether inside or outside the school, they are acting under the authority of the school. Students are expected to understand this and behave accordingly.

Students not acting in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with St. Catherine's Discipline Policy.

#### Definitions

For the purpose of this policy, the following definitions shall apply:

**Bullying** is a pattern of repeated actions targeted at a person in a deliberate manner, intended to reduce the perceived power that person has over the situation or to harm that person. All acts of bullying have the characteristics of being dehumanizing, intimidating, humiliating, threatening, and evokes fear of physical harm or emotional distress in the person being targeted.

**Personal Electronic Devices (PEDs)** are wireless and/or portable electronic handheld equipment that include, but are not limited to, existing and emerging Mobile Communication Systems and Smart Technologies (cell phones, smartphones, walkie-talkies, pagers, etc.), portable internet devices (tablets, ipads, mobile managers, mobile messengers, BlackBerry™ handsets, etc.), PDAs (Palm® organizers, pocket PCs, etc.), handheld entertainment systems (video games, CD players, compact DVD players, MP3 players, iPods®, Walkmen™, etc.), digital or film cameras, digital or analogue audio recorders or video recorders (tape recorders, camcorders, etc.), spy gadgets (spy cameras, covert listening devices, etc.), and any other convergent communication technologies that do any number of the previously mentioned functions. PEDs also include any current or emerging wireless handheld technologies or portable IT systems that can be used for the purpose of communication, entertainment, data management, word processing, wireless internet access, image capture/recording, sound recording and information transmitting/receiving/storing, etc.



<b>Reference:</b> School Policy 11 – Discipline CISVA Policy 407 – Student Code of Conduct CISVA Policy #426 – Suspensions & Expulsions	<b>Approved:</b> St. Joseph's Parish Education Committee
	<b>Date(s) Revised:</b> February 17, 2015