



# C. J. Schurter School

300 6th Avenue NE  
Slave Lake, Alberta T0G 2A2  
Telephone: 780.849.4344

Email: [cjs@hpsd.ca](mailto:cjs@hpsd.ca)  
Webpage: <https://cjs.hpsd.ca/>



## STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

*"A safe and caring school is one that is free from the risk of direct or indirect violence. It is a place where members work cooperatively toward a common purpose by undertaking activities, embarking on programs, using resources, and providing discipline that enhances teaching and learning."*

Alberta Teachers' Association

C. J. Schurter School is committed to promoting and maintaining a welcoming, safe, caring, and orderly school environment that respects diversity, fosters a sense of belonging, and creates a positive school culture where learning is maximized and students make responsible choices for their behaviour. As the responsibility for teaching appropriate acceptable behavior is shared between the home and school, teachers and parents work together to communicate, model, and reinforce the outlined expectations of respectful behavior. Consequences for non-compliance with the Code of Conduct will be appropriate for each individual student. Factors to consider include: the student's age, state of development, special needs, social and emotional needs, and level of cognitive functioning. Consequences will reflect the frequency, severity, and intensity of the inappropriate behaviour.

The Code of Conduct applies to all members of the school community, including students, parents and caregivers, school staff, volunteers, and visitors when:

- on school property
- traveling on a school bus
- participating in extra-curricular activities
- participating in off-site school-sponsored activities
- engaging in an activity which will have an impact on the school climate

CJS nurtures character, citizenship, and academic and personal success by highlighting the skills of accountability, adaptability, initiative, self-direction, responsibility, problem solving, communication, and teamwork by teaching and creating opportunities to develop these essential virtues.

### Character Education

Through a collaborative process of input from staff, students, and parents, our Character Education philosophy focuses on the values of:

- ✓ kindness
- ✓ acceptance
- ✓ honesty

Students are encouraged to help make CJS a great place to grow and learn by applying for student jobs, joining our student leadership team, and by participating in our many class and school activities throughout the year.

We will honour and celebrate positive student behaviours throughout the year through:

- “Shout Outs” during our morning announcements highlight students modeling good behaviour and character, or exhibit behaviours that reinforce our school mission and vision
- at our monthly assemblies, 10 students are selected to receive a “Follow Me, I’m a Leader” award and certificate for consistently demonstrating exceptional citizenship behaviours

### **Bullying**

Bullying is unfair and one-sided behaviour. It happens when someone keeps hurting, frightening, threatening, or leaving someone out on purpose, in person or via multi-media. Bullying can take many forms, such as: hitting and/or punching (physical bullying); teasing or name-calling (verbal bullying or emotional bullying); and sending insulting messages by phone or computer email (cyber bullying). Bullying is repeated over time (day after day, week after week, etc). It is important that adults are vigilant to possible signs of bullying.

<b>Differentiating Between Conflict Behaviours and Bullying Behaviours</b>		
<b>Conflict</b>	<b>vs.</b>	<b>Bullying</b>
equal power – friends	vs.	imbalance of power – not friends
accidental, 1 time event	vs.	purposeful, ongoing
remorse, takes responsibility	vs.	no remorse, blames the victim
effort to solve the problem	vs.	enjoys keeping the problem going

Generally speaking:

- When someone says or does something **unintentionally** hurtful and they do it once, that’s **RUDE**.
- When someone says or does something **intentionally** hurtful and they do it once, that’s **MEAN**.
- When someone says or does something **intentionally hurtful** and they **keep doing it**, even when you tell them to stop or show them that you’re upset, that’s **BULLYING**.

(Trudy Ludwig: Bullying Basics website)

**By far, our most effective tool in ensuring appropriate student behaviour is communication with and support from parents / caregivers. As we believe home and school must work together to help students understand that they are responsible for their behaviour, we will make every effort to inform parents of behaviour problems when they begin to occur. Working together with parents, we believe we can intervene and redirect inappropriate conduct.**

### **GENERAL STUDENT EXPECTATIONS**

To ensure all students have an opportunity to learn in a safe and caring environment, students will reasonably comply with the following code of conduct:

- be diligent in pursuing studies;
- attend school regularly and punctually;
- cooperate fully with everyone authorized by the board to provide education programs and other services;
- comply with the rules of the school;
- be accountable for one’s conduct;
- respect the rights of others;
- ensure that one’s conduct contributes to a welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging;
- refrain from, report, and not tolerate bullying or bullying behaviour directed toward others in the school, whether or not it occurs within the school building, during the school day, or by electronic means;
- positively contribute to the school and community

#### **On the Playground, students will:**

- play on the equipment according to guidelines
- stay within the boundaries of the playground during outdoor recesses
- walk bicycles, carry skateboards, etc. on school grounds
- avoid rough play, wrestling or play-fighting, including throwing snowballs or other harmful objects

- return to the classroom promptly when the bell rings

**In Hallways and Entrances, students will:**

- enter and exit through their assigned doors
- remove outdoor footwear upon entering the building, and place outer clothing in designated areas prior to class
- wear non-marking inside footwear
- move quietly through the hallways to avoid disturbing other classrooms

**In Washrooms, students will:**

- use sanitary supplies appropriately
- respect the privacy of others
- treat school property and supplies with respect

**In Assemblies, students will:**

- follow the teachers' instruction to enter and leave in an orderly fashion
- sit attentively, and show appreciation politely
- respect the personal space of others and avoid chatting with neighbours

**Out-of-class Expectations**

There are a number of occasions during the year when students will be involved in activities outside the classroom. On these occasions, students are required to meet the general behaviour expectations as well as the expectations specific to location and activity.

Students are expected to display pride in their school and be on their best behaviour while on any field trip or attending a school-sponsored event, including when travelling on the school bus. Students will adhere to the directions of their teachers and supervisors for the entire duration.

At the teacher's or principal's discretion, a student may be excluded from participating in a field trip or school event when they have displayed an inability or unwillingness to behave appropriately or to follow directions.

**STUDENT DISCIPLINE**

We believe that all students can conduct themselves appropriately and meet the school's reasonable expectations; however, should a student ignore or abuse the school guidelines, the behaviour will be considered inappropriate and will lead to logical consequences:

- behaviours that interfere with the learning of others; acts of violence; retribution; illegal activity and bullying are subject to consequences that may result in suspension from a class, school, and/or a recommendation for expulsion;
- students will be held accountable for any behaviour and/or communication means used to threaten, harass, intimidate, or assault another person outside of the school if the conduct negatively affects a member of the school or interferes with the school environment.

**Minor Offences**

All minor misbehaviours will be handled on the spot in class, hallways, playground, or general areas of the school by supervising staff. Interventions will occur quickly and will focus on correcting the student's behaviour and assisting them to make good decisions for the future. The teacher / supervisor may suggest that the student do any of the following (not a complete list):

- have a brief cool down time, away from others;
- stay with the teacher / supervisor and discuss ways to solve the problem;
- move to a different area to play;
- leave the group and find another activity;
- problem solve with the other person when a disagreement arises.

Should the student choose not to co-operate in applying the strategies suggested, or should the problem persist after these strategies have been tried, the student may be directed to meet with a school administrator to discuss the problem and develop a plan of action. Also, in those cases where the problem persists, consequences deemed appropriate by school administration may follow.

### **Major Offences**

Major offences will be categorized as follows:

- conduct, which interferes with or threatens the orderly functions of the school or adversely affects the wellbeing of others;
- conduct injurious to the safety and/or dignity of students or staff.

When a student demonstrates a major misconduct, after considering all mitigating circumstances for disciplinary intervention for each individual student, one or more of the following steps may be taken:

- the teacher / supervisor reports the behaviour to administration;
- the student, teacher / supervisor, and administrator meet to solve the problem and to make clear the formal disciplinary sequence should inappropriate behaviour continue;
- following a thorough review of the incident, the school administrator may choose to do one or more of the following (not a complete list):
  - refer the student to the counsellor
  - assign a detention or time-out
  - call parents and / or schedule a conference with parents
  - have the student and parent / caregiver complete a positive behaviour plan / contract
  - suspend the student in-school
  - suspend the student out-of-school
  - notify the police, if warranted