

LORNE PARK SECONDARY SCHOOL CODE OF CONDUCT

a) OUR COMMITMENT

Lorne Park Secondary School recognizes that students achieve their best when they feel safe, nurtured, welcomed, respected and included. We are committed to providing a healthy learning and working environment that supports student success by promoting responsibility, respect, civility, academic excellence and good citizenship. For learning to be successful, schools must be free of negative factors such as bullying, discrimination, intimidation, hateful words and actions, as well as physical violence in any form.

We believe that parents, the school and community must all work together to help students learn to become responsible members of society, being sensitive to the diversity, cultural and special needs of individual students. We must clearly demonstrate respect for social justice and human rights, and promote the values needed to develop responsible members of a democratic society.

OUR CODE OF CONDUCT

The Lorne Park Secondary School Code of Conduct applies to all members of the school community including, students, parents, guardians, volunteers, visitors and school staff, whether they are on school property, on school buses, at school-authorized events or activities, or in any other situation that may impact the school climate.

All members of the school community have a responsibility to respect and honour the school Code of Conduct, to demonstrate age and developmentally appropriate social behaviour and to take responsibility for their own actions.

OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

All members of the school community are expected to:

- demonstrate honesty and integrity
- treat one another with dignity, respect and fairness, regardless of their race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnicity, citizenship, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, ability, socio-economic status, or any other attribute.
- take appropriate action to help those in need, seeking assistance to resolve conflict constructively and respectfully
- show proper care and regard for school property and the property of others

Parent and guardian responsibilities include:

- taking an active role in their son/daughter's education by ensuring that he/she is prepared for learning, including punctual and regular attendance, promptly reporting authorized absences and late arrivals, and maintaining ongoing communication with the school
- reviewing the school Code of Conduct with their son/daughter and helping him/her follow school rules
- helping their child understand that it is not appropriate to tease or bully others
- monitoring their child's internet use and taking responsibility for his/her behaviour when accessing electronic resources from home

Student responsibilities include:

- demonstrating a commitment to learning through punctual and regular attendance, being prepared and ready to learn
- practicing honesty and integrity including, but not limited to, not participating in or encouraging plagiarism, misrepresentation of original work, use of unauthorized aids, theft of evaluation instruments, or false representation of identity
- following school rules and taking responsibility for his/her own actions
- refraining from bringing anything to school, or using anything inappropriately, that may risk the safety of themselves or others.
- showing proper care and regard for school and community property, as well as only visiting other schools for school-related and authorized activities

Staff responsibilities include:

- helping students achieve to the best of their ability, developing self-worth, and being responsible citizens
- maintaining order in the school and holding everyone to the highest standard of respectful and responsible behavior
- communicating regularly and meaningfully with parents/guardians

- establishing an array of extensive, clear, fair and developmentally appropriate interventions, supports, direct skill instruction and consequences for unacceptable behaviour

b) BULLYING PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION

We are teaching students to identify bullying behaviour and giving them strategies to deal with, and stop it from happening.

Bullying is typically a form of repeated, persistent and aggressive behaviour directed at an individual or individuals that is intended to cause (or should be known to cause) fear, distress and/or harm to another person's body, feelings, self-esteem or reputation. Bullying occurs in a context where there is a real or perceived power imbalance.

When someone experiences or when a bystander observes bullying behaviour, he/she is expected to report it to a teacher, counselor, teaching assistant or school administrator immediately. Bullying behaviour will be dealt with using a progressive discipline approach.

PROGRESSIVE DISCIPLINE

Lorne Park Secondary School encourages, supports and recognizes acceptable behaviour in our students through a variety of positive practices. Progressive discipline is an approach that makes use of a continuum of interventions, supports and consequences, building upon strategies that promote positive behaviours.

We encourage students to take responsibility for their behaviour and to accept the consequences of their actions. A progressive discipline approach will be used to deal with inappropriate behaviour. This may include: oral reminders, review of expectations, detentions, contact with parent(s)/guardian(s), written reflection, volunteer services to the school community, conflict mediation and resolution, peer mentoring, suspension, and/or referral for support services.

We recognize that each student is a unique individual and that every situation that requires disciplinary action has its own set of extenuating circumstances. All factors that may have affected the student's behaviour will be considered before progressive discipline is applied. Students who behave inappropriately will receive an age and developmentally appropriate consequence. For a student with special education or disability-related needs, all progressive discipline approaches will be consistent with his/her Individual Education Plan and his/her demonstrated abilities.

c) SUSPENSION and EXPULSION

Lorne Park Secondary School also supports the use of suspension and expulsion for serious incidents as outlined in the Peel District School Board's Safe Schools Policy.

Before considering whether to impose a suspension or make a recommendation for an expulsion, a Principal must consider mitigating and other factors.

The behaviours for which a Principal may consider suspending a student include:

1. swearing (written or verbal) at a teacher or at another person in a position of authority
2. bullying
3. uttering a threat to inflict serious bodily harm on another person
4. damaging or destroying school property
5. possessing alcohol or restricted drugs
6. being under the influence of alcohol or restricted drugs
7. committing any act, considered by the Principal to:
 - have a negative impact on the moral tone of the school
 - have a negative impact on the physical or mental well-being of one or more school community members
 - be contrary to the school or Peel Board Codes of Conduct

Incidents for which a Principal will consider recommending to the Board's Discipline Committee that a student be expelled include:

- physically assaulting another person causing bodily harm that requires medical treatment
- possessing a weapon or using a weapon to threaten or frighten another person
- trafficking in restricted drugs or weapons
- giving alcohol or restricted drugs to a minor
- committing robbery

- committing sexual assault
- behaviour that:
 - is significantly detrimental to the school climate and/or to the physical or mental well-being of others
 - causes extensive damage to school property
 - causes his/her continued presence at the school to pose an unacceptable risk to other members of the school community
 - a pattern of behaviour so inappropriate the student's continued presence is detrimental to the effective learning or working environment of others
 - demonstrates a persistent resistance to changes in behaviour that would enable him/her to be successful
 - is a serious violation of the school or Peel Board Codes of Conduct

Students who are suspended or expelled will be given an opportunity to continue their education through educational programs offered by the school board.

d) DRUGS/SMOKING/ENFORCEMENT

The school recognizes the benefits of a smoke-free environment for all persons. By law, smoking is not permitted at Lorne Park Secondary School, on any other board property, or school buses or while attending any school-related event or activity. School property includes cars that are on school grounds and all lands to the end of the sidewalk or street. The **no smoking** rule will be enforced within these areas.

- The Smoke-Free Ontario Act prohibits smoking on school property 24 hours a day/7 days a week. (The Smoke-Free Ontario Act replaced "The Tobacco Control Act" in 2006).
- The smoking prohibition applies to students, parents, visitors and staff as well as "after hours" groups who use the property.
- The *minimum* fine is \$305 for smoking on school property. Repeat offences result in a higher fine.
- It is illegal to sell or supply tobacco to any person under the age of 19.
- The *minimum* fine for selling, supplying or sharing cigarettes to anyone under 19 is \$365.

Smoking Enforcement Procedures

1st Offense: Consequences may include a warning, a letter sent home to parents, detentions/ community service (clean-up of school grounds) and/or suspension from school.

2nd Offense: the student's name is submitted to the TOBACCO ACT ENFORCEMENT OFFICER for the Region of Peel-Health Department, who will issue a **FINE of \$305.00** for smoking or holding lit tobacco on school property.

3rd Offense: Increased fines and suspension from school.

Alcohol and restricted drugs may be addictive and represent a health hazard. Possessing, using, trafficking in, or providing others with restricted drugs and/or alcohol will not be condoned at Lorne Park Secondary School, on Peel Board property or at any school-related event or activity at any time. Drug-related paraphernalia that can be used for substance abuse are not permitted on school property.

e) WEAPONS

Possessing or displaying weapons of any kind, real, toy or replica, and all other objects that could inflict or threaten bodily harm will not be condoned at Lorne Park Secondary School, on any Peel Board property, or at any school-related event or activity at any time.

f) DRESS CODE

Students are expected to dress appropriately for school. Appropriate dress is defined as, "not offensive or in any way distracting to the learning environment." Footwear is required at all times. Hats are permitted in classrooms or in the library only with the permission of the teacher(s) involved. **Hats must be removed during the playing of the National Anthem and when directed to do so by staff.**

Dress should always project a positive image of the school as a place of learning and as a multicultural community. Any clothing or accessories in poor taste (such as beachwear, etc.) or with objectionable comments or images are not permitted.

Specific illustrations include: swearing, nudity, prejudice, violence, drug references, clothing with hate-related, sexist, racist or homophobic overtones, or displaying of colours or dress to align with an anti-social group (i.e. gang).

Students not dressed appropriately may be sent home. Repeat offences may result in other school consequences.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Electronic Devices

It is every student's right to learn in a quiet, studious environment. Thus all students have a responsibility to remove personal stereos (I-pods/MP3 players) and store them out of sight in a school bag or locker. Personal communication devices such as cell phones may not be turned on while in instructional areas and are to be put away out of sight. These may be used at lunch outside of instructional areas. The school will not be responsible for thefts or loss of any personal electronic equipment. A land-line telephone is available for student use in the Main Office.

Laser Pens

Students are not to use laser pens/pointers in school because of health and safety concerns. Laser pens/pointers will be confiscated if found on school property and brought to the Main Office.

Skateboards/Roller Blades

Skateboards and roller blades are **not** to be used in the school or on school property at any time of day. Roller blades must be removed prior to entry. Items may be confiscated and brought to the Main Office.

Firecrackers, water pistols, spraying water, snowballs are not allowed at Lorne Park. Students who choose to bring or engage in these activities will face appropriate school consequences.

Visitors

School is a place of business. Student visitors are not permitted during the school day. On rare occasions, with 48 hours notice, a visitor's pass may be issued by administration at their discretion. No visitors are to be admitted to any class without such a pass. Even with a pass, an individual teacher can refuse to admit a visitor if the visit would be inappropriate. On entering the school, parents are asked to check in with the Main Office (Visiting school teams and coaches do not need passes, however, coaches are to remain with their team.)

Litter:

Please help to keep your school clean. Take pride by ensuring that all litter is placed in garbage receptacles found throughout the school.

Assemblies

Assemblies may be full school assemblies or targeted at specific groups within the school. For all assemblies courteous behaviour is an expectation. Teachers will sit and supervise their classes. Students who arrive late may not be permitted entry to the assembly and should report to the Main Office. **Students asked to leave an assembly for inappropriate behaviour will be referred to an administrator.**