

Massey-Vanier High School

Code of Conduct



SCHOOL CODE OF CONDUCT

The guiding spirit behind our discipline policy is to create a calm, orderly learning environment conducive to education. All members of the school community are expected to use common sense, interpret the code in a reasonable way, and to act in good faith. All persons are expected to respect Eastern Townships School Board policies and regulations as well as what is governed by law.

The Code of Conduct is based upon the Massey-Vanier Student Charter of Rights and Responsibilities.

As a member of the Massey-Vanier High School community:

- You have the **right** to be treated fairly and with respect, and the responsibility to treat others with the same fairness and respect.
- You have the **right** to not be discriminated against on the basis of your gender, sexual orientation, age, religion/belief, physical appearance, ethnicity, opinions, and political views.
- You have the **right** to be safe and free from any form of harassment, whether sexual, physical, emotional, or verbal, and free from bullying of any sort.
- You have the **right** to a clean school environment and the responsibility to refrain from littering or defacing the washrooms, cafeteria, classrooms, walls, and grounds.
- You have the **right** to academic support, personal guidance, and academic counselling from the school community.
- You have the **right** to have a voice in how the school is governed through an elected Students' Council and representation on the Governing Board.

EXPECTATIONS

Above all, behaviour on school grounds or at school-related activities should uphold the rights, personal dignity, and safety of all members of the school community, or community surrounding the activity. Behaviours should contribute positively to the learning environment, or the environment in which the activity is being held. Students should be respectful of all individuals and property they encounter by being a part of Massey-Vanier, or a Massey-Vanier organized activity.

A: STUDENTS' RESPONSIBILITIES

- Arrive at class on time with the needed materials
- Dress appropriately
- Do his or her best in studies and activities
- Make a positive contribution to school life
- Adhere to classroom rules
- Contact teachers for any assignments, notes, or tests missed during absences

There is a clear relationship between regular attendance at school and student success. The administration, teachers, and support staff encourage parents to refrain from taking additional holidays at times not scheduled on the school calendar. If a student takes additional vacation time beyond that prescribed on the school calendar, the student will be responsible for getting caught up on any missed work upon their return. Students must communicate with the teacher well in advance, as teachers are not obliged to prepare packages for them prior to departure.

B: PARENTS'/GUARDIANS' RESPONSIBILITIES

- Ensure that their child attends school regularly and on time
- Ensure that their child is provided with appropriate materials needed to make effective use of the learning environment
- Support the school providing meaningful and adequate education for their child
- Model respectful behaviour toward the school community
- Communicate with teachers in a timely fashion

C: TEACHERS', SUPPORT STAFF AND NON-TEACHING PROFESSIONALS RESPONSIBILITIES

- Help students work to their full potential and develop their self-worth.
- Empower students to be positive leaders in their classroom, school and community
- Communicate with parents on important issues
- Maintain consistent standards of behaviour for all students
- Show respect for all students, staff, parents, volunteers and members of the school community
- Prepare students for the full responsibilities of citizenship

D: THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- Demonstrate care for the school community and commitment to academic excellence in a safe teaching and learning environment
- Hold everyone under its authority responsible for his/her behaviour and actions
- Empower students to be positive leaders in their school and community
- Communicate regularly and meaningfully with all members of the school community

BEHAVIOURS AND CONSEQUENCES

The following infractions, but not limited to these, will not be tolerated and will result in immediate disciplinary action, which **may** include suspension. All Massey-Vanier students are expected to help maintain an orderly educational environment that is safe and clean.

Therefore, **the following behaviours are forbidden:**

- Assault, fighting, bullying
- Vandalism
- Possessing or dealing of drugs
- Cheating
- Forging of notes
- Disrupting the class with inappropriate behaviours
- Using the internet as a means to intimidate, humiliate or harass others
- Interfering with the proxy settings or the functioning of the internal network
- Posting of class materials or pictures on the web without permission of the teacher/students
- Sending, or receive abusive, pornographic, or illegal material on the Internet
- Skipping school or classes
- Repeating infractions leading to an excessive number of detentions
- Being rude, or using abusive language
- Roughhousing, pushing, or running in the hallways, etc.
- Having items such as weapons, water pistols, laser pointers, etc.
- Throw things like snowballs, water, firecrackers, etc.
- Smoking, chewing tobacco and using vapour cigarettes

CONSEQUENCES

Any behaviour not in keeping with the spirit of the Code of Conduct will result in disciplinary action. The principal, teacher, or supervising staff shall decide on the appropriate disciplinary action, taking into consideration the individual circumstance, and referring to school and board policy. Students have the responsibility to respect the authority of all adults of the Massey-Vanier community.

A variety of consequences **may** be applied. These might include:

- Verbal warning or reprimand
- Call to parents or guardian
- Special assignments
- Detention (recess, noon hour, after school or Ped Day)
- Removal from class, auditorium or hallway
- Restrictions to a student's freedoms in the building, or restrictions to participation in school activities.
- Suspension

A policy of forgiveness will apply to those whose behaviour record shows marked improvement.

REMEMBER: Do not take the law into your own hands. If someone harms you in any way, you may not punish that person yourself--that is the job of the supervising adults. A person who retaliates **may** find him/herself in as much trouble as the person who starts it.

If you are approached by an adult:

- You must identify yourself and cooperate with the staff member's instructions. Resisting authority and causing additional disturbance is an inappropriate behaviour and can get you into more trouble.
- It is best to cooperate with the staff member because you will have ample opportunity to defend yourself in the vice-principal's office where you can tell your side of the story and the problem can be solved.

DRESS CODE

Students are expected to wear clothes that are appropriate for a learning environment--clean, tidy, and appropriate for school.

- Clothing should not depict offensive images or language nor portray/advertise violence, the use of alcohol or illicit drugs.
- Headgear is not to be worn inside the school buildings.
- Clothing should not expose bare midriff, cleavage or undergarments; underwear (e.g. camisoles or tank tops) is not to be worn as outerwear. As well, see through outerwear are not permitted.
- Jeans with minor tears, or holes may be permitted, however, if they look like they have been in a fight with a shredder and lost, these will not be considered clean and tidy and should be kept for the weekend.
- Leggings, jeggings, and yoga pants may be worn only when a mid-thigh length sweater or top is worn over them.
- Bermuda or basketball length shorts may be worn; gym shorts are permitted.
- Mid-thigh skirts/shorts/dresses may be worn with shorts underneath.
- Students are expected to change for gym class (including **ALL E+ PROGRAMS**) and dance class. **A t-shirt and shorts or sweatpants** are to be worn by all students while in gym.

**A student will be expected to change or cover up if deemed inappropriately dressed. Refusal to do so will result in disciplinary action and the student may be asked to go home.*