



Statement of Purpose:

- To establish and maintain a safe, caring and inclusive learning environment.
- To establish and maintain an appropriate balance between individual and collective rights, freedoms and responsibilities.
- To clarify and publish expectations for student behaviour while at school, while going to and from school, and while attending any school function or activity at any location.
- To facilitate an environment where students communicate in a socially responsible manner.

Conduct Expectations:

Acceptable Conduct:

- Demonstrated commitment to learning by attending classes punctually and regularly, and by working diligently on school learning activities and home assignments;
- Practicing academic honesty and personal integrity by not participating in lying, plagiarism or cheating;
- Dress in a manner which reflects purpose and decorum, in compliance with the school dress code, and cultural propriety;
- Respect the rights, dignity and diversity of others, such diversity including but not limited to race, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, religion, culture or socio-economic status;
- Respect all property belonging to others, including all that belonging to the school or district, and refrain from any acts of theft, vandalism or graffiti;
- Acting in a safe and responsible manner when going to and from school, in classes, in school, on school grounds, on school buses, on field trips and during extra-curricular activities;
- Using respectful language and refraining from using profanity while at school, at school events or on school property;
- Seeking to prevent violence and potentially violent situations by reporting to adults all incidents and concerns regarding student safety.

Unacceptable Conduct:

- Any acts of discrimination in accordance with the *BC Human Rights Code*;
- Any behaviour that would physically or verbally harass, intimidate, bully or threaten in any way any person within the school community on or off school property (*AP 312*);
- Behaviours that interfere with the learning or safety of others;
- Inappropriate use of computers, phones, cameras, social media and/or other communication technologies;
- Possession, use, influence or trafficking of any illegal or restricted drug, alcohol or substances while at school, at school events or on school property;
- Possession of, or using weapons (including imitations) of any kind while at school, at school events or on school property;
- Participating, condoning, provoking or encouraging any form of violence (*AP 311 – Swarming*).



Bullying, Harassment & Intimidation:

Bullying can be physical or verbal, or can involve social alienation. It can be direct or indirect. Examples include: open assault, verbal taunts, teasing, gossiping, or spreading malicious rumours. Bullying Behaviour is usually: Repeated over time, intended to hurt, and involves a power imbalance.

Harassment is an unwelcome or unwanted act or comment that is harmful, degrading, humiliating or offensive to another person. Examples include: condescending treatment, repeated unwanted communication, unwelcome jokes or innuendoes, unwanted and uninvited sexual attention

Intimidation is the act of instilling fear in someone as a means of controlling that person. For example: Verbal threats, physical threats or daring a victim to do something dangerous or illegal.

Rising Expectations:

Expectations and consequences will increase for students as they become older and more mature. Older Wellington Secondary students are expected to exhibit increased personal responsibility and self-discipline, thereby bolstering Wellington's safe, orderly and caring school environment.

Consequences:

- Responses to unacceptable conduct should be consistent and fair;
- Disciplinary action, wherever possible, should be preventative and restorative, rather than merely punitive;
- As often as possible, students should be encouraged to participate in the development of meaningful consequences for violations of the code of conduct.

Notification:

District administration, the Board of Education, the RCMP and other agencies will be notified, as appropriate, and as required by administrative procedure or through the District's Violence, Threat, Risk Assessment (VTRA)

Appeals:

In accordance with Section 11 of the School Act and AP 325 – *Appeals*, a student or the parent of a student entitled to an educational program in the district may appeal any decision of an employee of the Board which significantly affects the education, health or safety of the student