

Chapter 5 Programs and Services

5.5 Student Code of Conduct

Policy Statement

Students participating in APSEA programs are expected to follow appropriate standards of behaviour in accordance with policies, procedures and guidelines set out by APSEA.

Students, parents/guardians and APSEA staff share responsibility for creating and maintaining a positive and inclusive learning climate where all students are supported to make good choices and achieve success in their learning.

Policy Objectives

- (i). To ensure the safety and well-being of students, staff, and any person who has contact with students and staff, participating in APSEA programs.
- (ii). Create a culture that minimizes risk and reinforces principles of a safe, positive and nurturing environment for everyone - physically, emotionally and psychologically.

Policy Directives

- Students are responsible to comply with APSEA's student expectations for appropriate conduct at all times while participating in APSEA programs.
- All students will be expected to adhere to the following **Acceptable Standards of Behaviour**:
 - o show respect for the rights, property, and safety of themselves and others
 - o accept personal responsibility for their behaviour
 - o demonstrate socially appropriate behaviour
 - o respect and appreciate diversity of all, regardless of their race, culture, ethnicity, religion, creed, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, physical disability or mental disability, mental illness, age, national or aboriginal origin, socio-economic status, or appearance
 - o treat school property and the property of others with a reasonable standard of respect
 - o consistently attend programming as scheduled
 - o show respect for the roles and responsibilities of students, APSEA staff and parents/guardians
 - o demonstrate respect for the learning environment, activities and events
 - o demonstrate and promote positive behaviour through the avoidance of all types of violence

- use information and communications technology, including the Internet, digital resources, and e-communication, and all forms of social media in a responsible and acceptable manner
 - refrain from all forms of bullying and cyberbullying, intimidation, racism, and discrimination
 - refrain from the possession of any weapons
 - refrain from the use of items as weapons intended to harm another person or themselves
 - refrain from the possession of, or being under the influence of alcohol, drugs, and all other forms of intoxicants
- Students will be expected to refrain from the following **Unacceptable Behaviours**:
 - bullying; cyberbullying
 - discriminatory behaviour; racist behaviour
 - illegal activity
 - insubordination
 - misuse of network or online resources
 - physical violence
 - verbal abuse
 - sexual intimacy; sexual assault; sexual harassment; sexual misconduct
 - significant disruption to school operations
 - use or possession of:
 - tobacco, nicotine products and e-cigarettes
 - alcohol
 - illegal and/or non-medicinal drugs; drug-related paraphernalia
 - use or possession of weapons
 - vandalism

Refer to Appendix A for detailed descriptors of **Unacceptable Behaviours**.

- Staff will interact with students to support appropriate conduct, while modeling expected behaviours.
- Every effort shall be made to ensure a safe, positive, learning environment.
- This policy is supported by specific procedures that guide APSEA staff in ensuring student conduct.

Application

This policy applies to all students, parents/guardians, staff, and any person who has contact with students and staff participating in APSEA programs.

Accountability, Monitoring and Review

- The Superintendent of APSEA is accountable to the APSEA Board of Directors for compliance with this policy.
- The Superintendent of APSEA or their designate will review this policy annually.

Approval Dates

This policy replaces procedures CF.05, CF.09, SI.05, STP.02, STP.03, STP.04, STP.08, STP.11

Approved: 24 March 2016

Revised:

Reference

Nova Scotia Provincial School Code of Conduct Policy (September 2015).

Communication/Enquiries

For information about this policy, please contact the Superintendent (902/424-8500, apsea@apsea.ca).

APPENDIX A

Category	Definition
Bullying	Bullying means behaviour, typically repeated, that is intended to cause or should be known to cause fear, intimidation, humiliation, exclusion, distress or other harm to another person's body, feelings, self-esteem, reputation or property, and can be direct or indirect, and includes assisting or encouraging the behaviour in any way.
Cyberbullying	Cyberbullying means any electronic communication through the use of technology including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, computers, other electronic devices, social networks, text messaging, instant messaging, websites and electronic mail, typically repeated or with continuing effect, that is intended or ought reasonably be expected to cause fear, intimidation, humiliation, distress, or other damage or harm to another person's health, emotional well-being, self-esteem, or reputation, and includes assisting or encouraging such communication in any way.
Discriminatory behaviour	Discriminatory behaviour includes any discrimination based on race, culture, ethnicity, religion, creed, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, physical disability or mental disability, mental illness, age, national or aboriginal origin, socio-economic status, or appearance.
Illegal activity	Committing any act, or inciting others to commit any act, involving a serious civil wrong or crime such as, but not limited to, stealing and possessing or selling stolen property.
Insubordination	Behaviour that conveys a deliberate disregard for a person's authority and position (e.g., APSEA staff, parent, adult in charge of student activities).
Misuse of networks or online resources	Unauthorized access or misuse of networks, online resources, and or e-communications.
Physical violence	Using force, gesturing, or inciting others to use force to injure another person.
Racist behaviour	Racist behaviour includes using racial/cultural slurs, engaging in racial/ ethnic name-calling, or actions, or inciting others to use racist language or engage in racist behaviours.
Verbal abuse	Using, or inciting others to use, language that is demeaning, threatening, or intimidating to another person.
Sexual assault	Sexual assault is any sexual touching or contact without consent as defined by the Criminal Code of Canada.
Sexual harassment	Sexual harassment is any objectionable, coercive, or irritating comment, communication, action, or attention of a sexual nature that is directed to a person or persons by someone who knows, or ought reasonably to know, that such actions are unwelcome; action or

Category	Definition
	communication with a sexual connotation or component that creates an intimidating, demeaning, or offensive work or school environment, even if it is directed to no person in particular.
Sexual intimacy	Sexual intimacy includes any form of physical contact of a sexual nature.
Sexual misconduct	Sexual misconduct includes any behaviour of a sexual nature or connotation that is deemed inappropriate or unacceptable at school or during any school-related activity.
Significant disruption to school operations	Committing acts or inciting others to commit acts that are seriously disruptive to the learning environment or create a safety hazard to students or staff.
Use or possession of alcohol	Use or possession of alcohol or being under the influence of alcohol on APSEA property or during off-campus, APSEA-related activities.
Use or possession of drug-related paraphernalia	Use or possession of paraphernalia intended for use with illegal drugs.
Use or possession of illegal drugs	Use, possession, or selling of a controlled drug or substance.
Use or possession of tobacco, nicotine products and e-cigarettes	Smoking of tobacco, e-cigarettes, or other forms of tobacco use, while attending APSEA programs or on APSEA property, including during off-campus APSEA-related activities.
Weapons possession	Possessing or inciting others to possess or use a weapon (anything used, designed to be used or intended for use in causing death or injury to any person, or for the purpose of threatening or intimidating any person) or instrument as a weapon, while on APSEA property or while attending an APSEA-related activity.
Weapons use	Use or pretense of using a weapon (anything used, designed to be used or intended for use in causing death or injury to any person, or for the purpose of threatening or intimidating any person) or instrument as a weapon while on APSEA property or while attending an APSEA-related activity.
Vandalism	Committing or inciting others to commit damage to the personal property of a member of APSEA, damage to property owned or operated by APSEA, damage to any property while attending an APSEA-related activity, vandalizing, damaging, or disabling the work of another individual or organization through the use of technology.