



Glen Tay Public School

Student & Parent Handbook

2017-2018

Glen Tay Public School

A TO Z

ANAPHYLAXIS

- Anaphylaxis is a serious allergic reaction. It has the potential to be life-threatening, especially if the student also has asthma.
- The school asks that all parents/guardians or students notify the school if their child is allergic to anything that could cause them to have a serious allergic reaction.
- The most common triggers include peanuts, tree nuts, shellfish, fish, milk, eggs, soy, sesame seeds, wheat, insect stings, drugs, and latex.
- Sulphite is often added to processed foods and beverages and can trigger an allergic reaction in sulphite-sensitive people.
- Exercise-induced anaphylaxis (often in conjunction with a food allergy).
- Students at risk for anaphylaxis should always carry an epinephrine auto-injector called an EpiPen® and know how to use it properly.
- If the parent/guardian does not want their child to carry an EpiPen with them at all times the school will ask that the parent/guardian provide the school with an epi-pen so that it could be used in the case of an emergency with their child.
- Parents, guardians and the school must work together to help students learn how to avoid the things to which they are allergic.
- Students should wear special identification such as a MedicAlert® bracelet which provides medical personnel with important information.

In order to minimize the danger to the student while at school or at a school-related event, it is the policy of The Upper Canada District School Board to implement avoidance strategies in the classroom and other areas to reduce allergic students' exposure to known allergens — foods known to cause allergic reactions (such as peanuts, nuts, nut extracts, milk, wheat, eggs, and soy), and insects causing anaphylactic reactions (such as bees and wasps).

As many of you are aware, some students at our schools have been diagnosed with severe allergies to peanuts, peanut butter and nut products. In some cases even trace amounts of peanut butter and/or nut products could jeopardize the life of a child/person with this allergy. It would be appreciated if you could avoid sending peanut butter or products containing nuts of any kind to school. Imitation Peanut Butter or any soy butter is not permitted in the school as it is difficult to differentiate these products from peanut butter or nut spreads. Your cooperation in this regard could save a life! Your efforts are appreciated.

Parents and guardians should communicate information about allergies to the school as soon as they are known. The school develops an Emergency Student Protocol for each identified anaphylactic student. A copy of the Anaphylaxis Guideline issued by the Board is available

ANNOUNCEMENTS Morning announcements are broadcast at 9:15 a.m.

ANSWERING MACHINE Our answering machine is on when no-one is available to answer the phone. Parents and guardians are asked to contact the school at 267-1909 to report the absence of their child.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

While the students are at school, we are responsible for their welfare and safety. In order to ensure this we ask each parent/guardian to comply with the following:

1. **Visitor Entrances:** All doors are locked. Admission may be gained through the main entrance upon visitors ringing the door bell.
2. **Visitors Report to Office:** All visitors to the school are asked to come to the office so that we may welcome and assist you. Visitors, whether expected or not, are asked not to go to the classroom unannounced. During the school day, anyone coming to the school must sign in at the office, and wear an ID badge while in the school.
3. **Removing Students during School Day:** If parents wish to withdraw their child from school while they are in our care, please send a note to the teacher indicating the reason for leaving, as well as the time. Parents must pick up their child/children at the school office where a sign-out book must be completed. We ask students who return from an appointment or who are late in arriving at school to report to the office.
4. **Change of Information:** Parents are asked to let the school know when there is a change in routine, address, phone number or baby sitter.
5. **Release Students:** Students will not be released from school to anyone other than parents/guardians without prior notification from parents, preferably written.

ATTENDANCE:

Attendance folders are sent to the office shortly after 9:10 a.m. The reason for the absence of a student will be noted if it is known. The office will contact the parent if the reason for a student's absence is not known. Parents and guardians are asked to contact the school at 267 1909 to report the absence of their child. Our answering machine is on when no-one is available to answer a call. Please send a note to your child's teacher when he/she returns to school, to confirm the date(s) and reason for an absence. Please notify the school promptly if your family has a change of telephone number, emergency contacts and/or address.

ASTHMA

Asthma Policy (Ryan's Law)

- The school asks that all parents/guardians or students notify the school if their child has been diagnosed with asthma.
- An individual student asthma management plan must be created for each student diagnosed with asthma, based on the recommendation of the student's health care provider. It is the obligation of the pupil's parent/guardian and the pupil to ensure that the information in the pupil's file is kept up-to-date with the medication that the student is taking;
- The school will ensure that all students have easy access to their prescribed reliever inhaler(s) medications. **A pupil is permitted to carry his/her asthma medication if the pupil has his/her parent's or guardian's signed permission.** This form is available in the main office. If the pupil is 16 years or older, the pupil is not required to have parent/guardian permission to carry his/her asthma medication
- If a school staff believes a student is suffering from an asthma attack they may administer medication, even if there is no preauthorization to do so. For more information about the board policy on Asthma please click on the following [Asthma Procedure 4003.1 link](#).

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| BIKES | Students who live within biking distance of the school are welcome to bring their bike to school. As a safety precaution, students are reminded that wearing a certified bike helmet is a great piece of safety equipment to minimize the risk of head injury. Students are required to wear a bike helmet if they are riding their bike on school property or taking part in a school related cycling activity. The school and UCDSB are not responsible for stolen or damaged personal property. |
| BUSSING | Please refer to the UCDSB's pamphlet entitled "Transportation Information & Guidelines for Students and Parents." |
| BUS CANCELLATION | In the event of bus cancellation due to poor weather conditions, announcements will be made on LAKE 88.1: Bus cancellations can also be verified on the STEO website: www.steo.ca |
| CHILD ABUSE | Whenever there is a suspicion that a student is being abused, neglected or is possibly suicidal, the person to whom the disclosure is made will contact C.A.S. as quickly as possible. All individuals have a legal responsibility to report suspected abuse to The Children's Aid Society. |
| COMMUNICATION | School newsletters, as well as classroom newsletters, are sent home on an 'as-needed' basis. School newsletters will also be sent electronically for families who have indicated this preference. |
| COMMUNITY SUPPORT | Glen Tay students and staff participate in a number of activities throughout the year to show community support and appreciation. Community groups may contact the school office to inquire about school use outside of regular school hours. |
| CONCUSSION | The Upper Canada District School Board (Board) recognizes concussions as a serious injury which requires appropriate follow-up measures to reduce risk of potential additional injury. Concussion awareness, prevention, identification and management are a priority for the Board. |
| | The Board recognizes that children and adolescents are among those at greatest risk for concussions and that while there is potential for a concussion any time there is body trauma, the risk is greatest during activities where collisions can occur, such as during physical education classes, playground time, or school-based sports activities. |
| | It is critical that a student with a suspected concussion be examined by a medical doctor or nurse practitioner as soon as possible on the same day. |
| | If a student has a suspected concussion whether it is school related or not it is imperative that the school be made aware so that a Return to Learn/Return to Physical Activity Plan can be developed in collaboration with the school, home and medical practitioner. Please view the UCDSB concussion procedure and appendices at the following links UCDSB Concussion Procedure 4001.1 & Concussion Procedure 4001.1 Appendices to view important information and all of the steps that must be followed and the forms that must be used if a student has a suspected concussion or concussion. |
| COSTS | While every effort is made to keep additional costs to families to a minimum, there may be times when money is requested to help meet the expenses |

incurred by trips, celebrations, and supplemental programs. Subsidies or flexible payment plans are always available. Do not hesitate to contact the office if you wish to make alternate arrangements.

DAMAGE

Students should report all damage of school property to the main office as soon as possible. Students are responsible for damages to or loss of school property and should expect to pay for repair or replacement (property, books and facilities).

EMERGENCY

Should an emergency evacuation be necessary, students will be taken to one of the following locations:

Tay Valley Township Office: 217 Harper Rd., TVT 1 800 810 0161

The Stewart School: 7 Sunset Blvd., Perth 613 267 2940

Drummond Central: 1469 Drummond School Rd., Perth 613 267 4789

Parents will be contacted and students will be kept at the evacuation site until picked up by a parent or a designated adult.

EMERGENCY CODES Lockdown – Hold & Secure – Shelter in Place

“Lockdown” – There is an imminent threat to staff and students inside the school

- All Staff and students should go to the nearest classroom/room.
- Staff and students are to remain away from doors and windows and out of the line of sight from the windows and doors
- If staff and students are outside the school, they should run for cover behind the nearest solid structure or seek safety and security in a spot off of school grounds – they should NOT re-enter the building unless absolutely necessary for protection
- Classroom doors and windows are to be locked
- REMAIN QUIET!!! - Make the classroom look, feel and sound empty.
- No contact with office **unless information about suspect/incident/bomb/fire.**
- No cell phone usage within the classroom.
- Ignore the fire alarm unless there is clear evidence of a fire and an immediate threat to student safety
- **Washroom:** If a student is in a washroom and can't go to another room immediately and safely during a lockdown they should enter a stall, lock the stall door and climb up on the toilet so their feet cannot be seen while remaining quiet.
- **ALL staff and students should remain in their safe location until they are removed by the police.**

“Hold and Secure” – the potential threat is outside the school

- All exterior doors are to be secured
- Staff and students should remain with their class in whatever location their class is located and secure themselves within the room.
- If staff and students are outside of their classroom (outdoors, hallway) they should go into the nearest classroom/office.
- Classroom activities can resume within reason.
- If students are in the washroom or hallway they should return to their class immediately.
- No one is allowed in or out of the room until the code is cancelled.

Before School - All students report to their classroom immediately

At Recess/Lunch - All students report to their classroom immediately

After School - all students re-enter the school and report to their classrooms immediately

“Shelter in Place” – this is a non-violent threat in the community or a weather situation that could place students at risk.

- Students should remain with their class in whatever location their class is located
 - If students are in the washroom or hallway they should return to their class immediately.
 - If students are in the office, guidance or cafeteria they should remain there unless instructed otherwise
- If students are outside they should re-enter the building with their teacher and go into a classroom.

Before School - All students report to their classroom immediately.

At Breaks/Lunch - All students report to their classroom immediately.

After School - all students re-enter the school and report to their classrooms immediately

FIELD TRIPS

At various times throughout the year, teachers sometimes choose to enhance the academic program by taking the children out of the school for a field trip. Parents are asked to complete a “Walking Field Trip” form at the beginning of the year for any “local” trips that involve leaving school property. Parental permission is required when children leave the school, and volunteers are often invited to accompany staff and students on these trips. Parent involvement in these ventures is both encouraged and appreciated, however, completed police reference checks are necessary to be on file at the school for all volunteers. Students may be required to bring in money to offset the cost of these outings. Students who habitually misbehave may be excluded by the school from the field trip. An alternate program will be provided at school for students that have chosen not to participate or have been excluded from the trip.

FIRE DRILLS

When an alarm is sounded, the building is evacuated. Each classroom has a fire exit instruction sign posted near the door which directs students to the appropriate exit.

When the alarm sounds, students must file out in a calm and orderly manner while moving with their class, move away from the building once outside. Attendance will be taken outside once the class is a safe distance from the school. You must cooperate fully with school staff. For the safety of students, fire drills and emergency (lockdown) drills are held throughout the year. It is most important that students wear footwear at all times in school so that all students can exit the building quickly and safely. We participate in six fire drills each school year.



HEAD LICE

Whenever a large number of students share a common space, the possibility of head lice always exists. Therefore, we ask the parents of our students to perform regular head checks on their son/daughter throughout the school year. In this way, we should not experience any unexpected outbreaks of head lice. You should be looking for small, white, sticky eggs which are attached to the hair shaft. If you do detect these eggs, please notify the school in order that appropriate action may be taken. If you need advice or assistance in dealing with head lice, please feel free to contact the Public Health Unit.

HEALTH UNIT

The Immunization of School Pupils Act requires that all students be fully immunized unless religious or medical exemptions exist. Questions regarding communicable diseases or other health issues can be answered by calling the Health Unit at 1-800-660-5853.

HOMEWORK

Homework is viewed as an extension of the school curriculum, bridging home and school. Generally speaking, a normal amount of homework per night is about 10 minutes per grade. For example, a student in Grade 6 can expect a maximum of 60 minutes of homework per day. If your child experiences more than the amount using this formula it should serve as an indication that you should contact your child's teacher to find out more details. Homework teaches the personal skills of responsibility, self-discipline and awareness of routines and organization. Homework can include a variety of tasks, such as:

1. Returning a form or test with a signature
2. Finding a picture or a sample for a given topic
3. Bringing money or fees
4. Taking home newsletters and notices
5. Returning library books on time
6. Checking schedules in order to come prepared for class, i.e. gym, library, music, etc.
7. Completing unfinished classroom work
8. Enrichment, such as special television productions, newspaper articles, projects (both assigned and student initiated)
9. Extra practice, such as reinforcement of math facts, French verbs or spelling words
10. Studying for tests
11. Planning and working in advance of project and test due dates
12. Completion of the Student Agenda by student, teacher and parents

ILLNESS/INJURY

Students who are injured or ill will report to the office. If needed, parents will be contacted. Students who are ill may lie down in the health room for a short period of time. However, should he/she not feel better, we need to be able to make arrangements for your son/daughter to leave the school. Please make sure that you inform the office of all changes of address, telephone, baby sitter or emergency contacts.

During the course of a year we may have some students with extenuating circumstances who must stay in at recess time rather than going outside. In cases of prolonged recovery periods for serious ailments, please contact the principal to arrange suitable supervision indoors as required.

MEDICATION

The Upper Canada District School Board will not administer prescribed medication for students without the authorization of a licensed physician and the medication must be received within a properly labelled pharmacy bottle. The administration of prescription and / or non-prescription medication to a student is the responsibility of the student's parent(s)/guardian(s). Treatment regimes should, where possible, be adjusted to avoid administration of medication (prescription/non-prescription) during school hours.

The Board recognizes that there may be exceptional cases where a student must have medication administered during regular school hours. Students are not permitted to self-administer without the appropriate supervision and

authorization on file. In order for students to take medication or have medication administered at school the following steps must be followed:

1. The Authorization for the Administration of Medication form must be completed and signed by a licensed physician and/or the parent(s)/guardian(s). This form will need to be completed for every new school year and/or for each medication which requires administration by the school. Should there be a dosage change for any medication a new form must be submitted.
2. All prescribed medication must be received within a pharmacy bottle and the label on the bottle must provide instruction on how to administer such medication. The pharmacist medication information sheet must also be provided with the Authorization for Administration of Medication form. Non prescribed medication must be in its original packaging.

The Authorization for the Administration of Medication Form can be picked up from the main office.

NOTE: Students are not permitted to transport or keep medication with them for safety reasons. The exception here is an epi-pen or asthma inhaler if students have a signed permission form to carry their epi-pen or asthma inhaler in school. For more information in regards to medication please contact the main office.

School Board policy requires medication for students to be kept at the school office with the exception of asthma inhalers and epi-pens.

PERSONAL DEVICES In recognition of their differing interests, abilities, personalities and learning preferences, the Upper Canada District School Board encourages its students to select and use the supplies, equipment, devices and other resources they need to learn effectively at school and at home. The Upper Canada District School Board supports its students by providing an environment that allows students to bring supplies, equipment, devices and other resources of their own into the school and classroom in a way consistent with Upper Canada District School Board policies and values.

Smart phones, cell phones, and other electronic devices are to be used in class at the discretion of the teacher and school principal. The unauthorized use of a cell phone or an electronic device in class may result in the teacher asking the student to put the device away, keep the device at home or ask for it to be given to the teacher for safe keeping. This item may be sent to the office and returned to the student at the end of the day. If this happens on numerous occasions the student may be asked to keep the electronic device at home.

Photographs and Recording Audio/Video

On school property, no one is allowed to record audio/video or take pictures of staff or students at any time or anywhere unless they have the permission of the Principal/Vice-Principal and all of the people in the photograph, video or sound recording. Taking a picture or recording someone without their permission could be an invasion of privacy and might lead to suspension, expulsion, criminal charges, or a civil lawsuit.

NOTE: If a student violates any policy stated above the device could be confiscated and the possible consequences listed above will be followed.

SAFE ARRIVAL

The Safe Arrival program mandates that we contact a student's parent/guardian each day a student is absent. Please let the school know the reason for your child's absence. You can call the school, leave a message on the answering machine or use MyFamilyRoom

(www.myfamilyroom.ca) to let the school know of any absences. If your child is being picked up at school as a planned absence, please put a note in your child's agenda. The note must indicate the name of the student being picked up, identify the person picking up the student and indicate the time the student will be picked up. The parent/guardian must sign out the student at the office as they exit the school.

If dismissal plans for a student change during the day, please contact the school as soon as possible to advise of the change, preferably no later than 2:30 pm. This allows us to notify students and teaching staff with minimal interruptions to classroom instructional time. The school telephone is typically very busy after this time of day and there is a risk that your dismissal plan changes would not be received before the end of the school day. In the event that your child must be picked up unexpectedly, please contact the school to advise of this need, indicating the time of pick up and who will be picking up the student. At all times, anyone picking up a child at school is required to enter the school through the main entrance. Please report to the main office, identify yourself and advise the principal/office administrator that you are picking up the student.

There are occasions throughout the year when students believe they will be picked up at dismissal rather than ride the bus home. In order to avoid unnecessary worry for parents and caregivers, our policy is that students will be sent home on their regular bus if they do not have a note or a parent phone call has not been received.

A student arriving late for school must be accompanied into the school by their parent/guardian and sign in at the office for attendance and safety reasons. The student will be given a late slip; they will not be admitted to class without this slip.

All visitors, including parents and volunteers, enter and exit the building via the Main Entrance and use the Visitors Log book located in the front lobby to sign in and sign out.

As a bus safety measure vehicles are restricted from entering and parking in the bus-loading zone during morning drop-off (8:45-9:15) and afternoon dismissal (3:15 – 3:45). Vehicles are not permitted to enter or exit the parking lot during these times and while buses are in the bus-loading zone. Use the adjacent parking area and separate entrance by the rink.

If you are driving your child to school, please note that supervision does not begin until 9:00 am. No child is allowed in the school or on the yard without proper supervision. In the case of an emergency, it may be possible to make special arrangements by contacting the office.

SCHOOL HOURS

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| School Begins | 9:10 |
| Lunch | 11:30 – 11:50 |
| Noon Recess | 11:50 – 12:10 |
| Classes Resume | 12:10 |
| Afternoon Recess | 2:45 – 3:25 |
| Dismissal | 3:30 |

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| SCHOOL COUNCIL | Our School Council provides a meaningful liaison between home, school and the community. Meetings are held on a regular basis throughout the school year. They will be announced in the school newsletter. All meetings are open to the public, especially parents/guardians. Parents are encouraged to participate in this important aspect of the school community. Look for nomination information distributed each September. |
| SKATEBOARDS | (In-Line Skates and Shoes with Wheels) Students are not permitted to use skateboards, in-line skates or “Heelys” on school property. Students with wheels built into the bottom of their shoes are to remove the wheels before entering school property. |
| STUDENT PHONE CALLS | Calls to parents at home or at work, unless absolutely necessary, are discouraged. Arrangements to visit friends, to attend after school activities, etc. that are a change from normal routine should be made in advance and the student must have written permission from a parent or guardian. Bus changes are permitted for emergency situations involving care. These must also be pre-arranged. |
| STUDY SKILLS | The following are some suggestions for parents to help their child develop good study habits: -set aside a regular homework time -find a quiet, well-lit work area without distractions, such as radio / TV -keep a daily planner for due dates and a timetable showing when special equipment might be needed (gym shoes/clothing, swim suits, for example) |
| TRANSPORTATION | The Student Transportation of Eastern Ontario provides detailed guidelines for parents and guardians regarding the transportation of students. An information booklet is given to every student at the beginning of the school year, and is also posted on the STEO website at www.steo.ca . Parents/guardians should be aware that school bus drivers can only pick up and drop off riders at one authorized regular daily stop. Drivers cannot make changes to stops without authorization from the Transportation Department. Transportation for all non-school related functions is the responsibility of parents/guardians. Transportation cannot be provided for sleepovers, a homework project, to complete community service hours or for an after school job. These requests cannot be permitted for safety reasons. |
| UNEXPLAINED NON-ATTENDANCE | As part of or unexplained non-attendance procedures, (formerly Safe Arrival) parents will be called when student absences are not known. These calls follow regular attendance each morning. |
| VOLUNTEERS | Parents and volunteers are always needed and welcome. Volunteers can assist in many ways, such as reading/math support, co-creating instructional materials, working with teachers/students in the classroom, helping with Hot Lunch and working at special events and/or clubs. Volunteers are asked to |

use the sign-in book at the office, wear an I.D. Pass while on school property, and are protected by all UCDSB policies and procedures. All volunteers must complete a Criminal Reference Check each year before working with students in any capacity. Forms are available in the school office.

WEAPONS & Firecrackers, Matches, Lighters, Laser Pointers

The possession and/or display of weapons and firecrackers on school property are strictly forbidden. Such possession may result in immediate suspension. The public display or use of lighters or matches on school property is prohibited. In the interest of student and staff safety, water pistols, toy guns and laser pointers are not permitted on school property.



CODE OF CONDUCT

The Upper Canada District School Board Code of Conduct is based on the foundation of the Character Always initiative, and has been developed to promote and support respect, civility, responsible citizenship and to provide the framework for policies related to student discipline, bullying prevention, student and staff safety, respectful working and learning environments, and workplace harassment.

STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOUR

A. Respect, Civility, and Responsible Citizenship

All members of the school community must:

- Respect and comply with all applicable federal, provincial, and municipal laws
- Demonstrate honesty and integrity
- Respect differences in people, their ideas and their opinions
- Treat one another with dignity and respect at all times, and especially when there is disagreement
- Respect and treat others fairly, regardless of, for example, race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, or disability
- Respect the rights of others
- Show proper care and regard for school property and the property of others
- Take appropriate measures to help those in need
- Seek assistance from a member of the school staff, if necessary, to resolve conflict peacefully
- Respect all members of the school community, especially persons in positions of authority
- Respect the need of others to work in an environment that is conducive to learning and teaching
- Not swear at a teacher or at another person in a position of authority

B. Safety

All members of the school community must not:

- Engage in bullying behaviours
- Commit sexual assault

- Traffic weapons or illegal drugs
- Give alcohol to a minor
- Commit robbery
- Be in possession of any weapon, including firearms
- Use any object to threaten or intimidate another person
- Cause injury to any person with an object
- Be in possession of, or be under the influence of, or provide others with alcohol or illegal drugs
- Inflict or encourage others to inflict bodily harm on another person
- Engage in hate propaganda and other forms of behaviour motivated by hate or bias
- Commit an act of vandalism that causes extensive damage to school property or to property located on the premises of a school

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

C. The Upper Canada District School Board will

- Develop policies to set out how schools will implement and enforce the provincial Code of Conduct and all other rules developed which are related to the provincial standards that promote and support respect, civility, responsible citizenship and safety;
- Review those policies regularly with students, staff, parents, volunteers, and the community;
- Seek input from school councils, Parent Involvement Committee, Special Education Advisory Committee, parents, students, staff members, and the school community;
- Establish a process that clearly communicates the provincial and school board Codes of Conduct to all parents, students, staff members, and members of the school community in order to obtain their commitment and support;
- Develop effective intervention strategies and respond to all infractions related to the standards for respect, civility, responsible citizenship and safety;
- Provide opportunities for all staff to acquire the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to develop and maintain academic excellence in a safe learning and teaching environment.

D. Principals

Principals provide leadership in the daily operation of a school by:

- Demonstrating care for the school community and a commitment to academic excellence in a safe teaching and learning environment;
- Holding everyone under their authority accountable for his or her behaviour and actions;
- Empowering students to be positive leaders in the school and community;
- Communicating regularly and meaningfully with all members of their school community.

E. Teachers and Other School Staff Members

Under the leadership of Principals, teachers and other school staff members maintain order in the school and are expected to hold everyone to the highest standard of respectful and

responsible behaviour. As role models, teachers and school staff uphold these high standards when they:

- Help students work to their full potential and develop their sense of self-worth;
- Empower students to be positive leaders in their classrooms, school, and community;
- Communicate regularly and meaningfully with parents;
- Maintain consistent standards of behaviour for all students;
- Demonstrate respect for all students, staff, parents, volunteers, and the members of the school community;
- Prepare students for the full responsibilities of citizenship.

F. Students

Students are treated with respect and dignity. In return, they must demonstrate respect for themselves, for others, and for the responsibilities of citizenship through acceptable behaviour. Respect and responsibility are demonstrated when a student:

- Comes to school prepared, on time, and ready to learn;
- Shows respect for himself or herself, for others, and for those in authority;
- Refrains from bringing anything to school that may compromise the safety of others;
- Follows the established rules and takes responsibility for his or her own actions.

G. Parents

Parents play an important role in the education of their children, and can support the efforts of school staff in maintaining a safe and respectful learning environment for all students. Parents fulfil their role when they:

- Show an active interest in their child's school work and progress;
- Communicate regularly with the school;
- Help their child be neat, appropriately dressed, and prepared for school;
- Ensure that their child attends school regularly and on time;
- Promptly report to the school their child's absence or late arrival;
- Show that they are familiar with the provincial Code of Conduct, the board's Code of Conduct, and school rules;
- Encourage and assist their child in following the rules of behaviour;
- Assist school staff in dealing with disciplinary issues involving their child.

Community Partners and the Police

The Upper Canada DSB is committed to enhancing and developing partnerships with community agencies and members of the community by establishing protocols which will establish clear linkages and formalize the relationship between the board and its partners. These partnerships will respect all applicable collective agreements.

The police play an essential role in making our schools and communities safe. The police investigate incidents in accordance with the protocol developed with the Upper Canada DSB. This protocol is based on a provincial model developed by the Ministry of the Solicitor General and the Ministry of Education.

The Upper Canada District School Board Code of Conduct and its Policy 124, Code of Conduct, will be reviewed annually by the Safe Schools Cabinet.

Bullying

Bullying or cyber-bullying will not be tolerated. The intention of the school is to provide a positive and safe learning environment that will improve students' academic, social, physical and emotional growth.

The Definition of Bullying:

- “bullying” means aggressive and typically repeated behaviour by a pupil where,
- (a) the behaviour (physical, verbal, electronic, written or other means) is intended by the pupil to have the effect of, or the pupil ought to know that the behaviour would be likely to have the effect of,
- (i) causing harm, fear or distress to another individual, including physical, psychological, social or academic harm, harm to the individual's reputation or harm to the individual's property, or
- (ii) creating a negative environment at a school for another individual, and
- (b) the behaviour occurs in a context where there is a real or perceived power imbalance between the pupil and the individual based on factors such as size, strength, age, intelligence, peer group power, economic status, social status, religion, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, family circumstances, gender, gender identity, gender expression, race, disability or the receipt of special education;
- Cyber-bullying - bullying by electronic means – includes but is not limited to:
 - (a) creating a web page or a blog in which the creator assumes the identity of another person;
 - (b) impersonating another person as the author of content or messages posted on the internet;
 - (c) communicating material electronically to more than one individual or posting material on a website that may be accessed by one or more individuals.

Aggressive behaviour may be intentional or unintentional, direct or indirect. It can take many forms, including physical, verbal, and social. If aggressive behaviour is physical, it may include hitting, pushing, slapping, and tripping. If it is verbal, it may include name calling, mocking, insults, threats, and sexist, racist, homophobic, or transphobic comments. If it is social, or relational, aggression, it is more subtle and may involve such behaviours as gossiping, spreading rumours, excluding others from a group, humiliating others with public gestures or graffiti, and shunning or ignoring. Social aggression may also occur through the use of technology (e.g., spreading rumours, images, or hurtful comments through the use of e-mail, cell phones, text messaging, Internet websites, social networking, or other technology).

NOTE: Under the police board protocol, the police will be notified if students are found to be sharing intimate images with each other.

Reporting Bullying

- Students must report any type of bullying behaviour to a trusting adult (verbally or in writing) whether it occurs inside or outside of the school. The trusting adult must then ensure that the Principal is contacted and informed of the bullying
- All staff must report any incident of bullying in writing to the Principal.
- Safe School strategies will be monitored and reviewed each term to ensure all strategies are effective.
- The School will conduct a School Climate survey every two years and report findings to the Safe Schools Team.

Bullying Consequences: There are many possible interventions and consequences for bullying. A number of these can be found under the Progressive Discipline section and the Suspension and Expulsion section of this handbook.

Bullying Prevention and Awareness Strategies: Schools should have their own methods to help prevent bullying and to make students more aware. Some of these could include: Guest speakers for students, staff, and community members, individual or group counselling, Character Education Assemblies, Safety Plans for Students, Anti-Bullying Programs, Good Citizen modeling, Celebration and Recognition Assemblies, and Classroom discussions. Contact the school to find out more information about this topic.

Progressive Discipline

It is the policy of the Upper Canada District School Board, with respect to progressive discipline, to support a safe learning and teaching environment in which every pupil can reach his or her full potential. Appropriate action must consistently be taken by schools to address behaviour that is contrary to provincial and Board Codes of Conduct.

Progressive discipline is an approach that makes use of a continuum of interventions, supports, and consequences, building upon strategies that promote positive behaviours. The range of interventions, supports, and consequences used by the Board and all schools must be clear and developmentally appropriate, and must include learning opportunities for pupils in order reinforce positive behaviours and help pupils make good choices.

For pupils with special education and/or disability related needs, interventions, supports and consequences must be consistent with the expectations in the student's IEP and/or his/her demonstrated abilities. The Board, and school administrators, must consider all mitigating and other factors, as required by the *Education Act* and as set out in Ontario Regulation 472/07. The continuum of interventions in our progressive discipline model begins at the classroom level between the teacher and the student and then includes the student's parent/guardian.

Interventions may include but are not limited to:

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|--------------------------------|--|
| Teacher-student meeting | Community service |
| Contact with parents | Conflict mediation |
| Verbal reminders | Peer mentoring |
| Written reflective assignments | Referral to counselling |
| Problem-solving activity | Meeting with parent |
| Time-out | Meeting with parent/student/admin. |
| Quiet area to work | Referral to community agency |
| Removal from class | Withdrawal of classroom privileges |
| Update call to parent | Restitution for damages |
| Office referral/detentions | Restorative practices |
| Home consequences | Other interventions deemed appropriate |

Some possible next steps that involve the Administration/Student/Teacher/Parent:

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Update call to parent | Meeting with parent |
| Suspension/Expulsion | Withdrawal from class |
| Meeting with student and teacher | Conflict Mediation |
| Alternative to suspension | Referral to community agency |
| Referral to support staff | Community Service |

Withdrawal of school privileges
Restorative practices

Restitution for damages
Reflection activities

When addressing inappropriate behaviour, school staff should consider the particular pupil and circumstances, including any mitigating and other factors as set out in the Student Discipline Procedures, the nature and severity of the behaviour, and the impact on the school climate.

Suspensions and Expulsions

When a principal determines that a pupil has committed one or more infractions on school property, during school-related activities or events, and/or in circumstances off of school property, where the infraction has an impact on the school climate, a principal will consider whether that pupil should be suspended or be recommended to the Board Expulsion Committee.

Activities for which suspension must be considered under section 306(1) of the *Education Act*

- Uttering a threat to inflict serious bodily harm on another person.
- Possessing alcohol, illegal and/or restricted drugs.
- Being under the influence of alcohol.
- Swearing at a teacher or at another person in a position of authority.
- Committing an act of vandalism that causes extensive damage to school property at the pupil's school or to property located on the premises of the pupil's school.
- Bullying.
- Any act considered by the principal to be injurious to the moral tone of the school
- Any act considered by the principal to be injurious to the physical or mental well-being of members of the school community
- Any act considered by the principal to be contrary to the Board or school Code of Conduct
- Opposition to authority
- Habitual neglect of duty
- Fighting/Violence
- Use of profanity/swearing

Activities for which expulsion must be considered under section 310(1) of the *Education Act*

- Possessing a weapon, including possessing a firearm or knife.
- Using a weapon to cause or to threaten bodily harm to another person.
- Committing physical assault on another person that causes bodily harm requiring treatment by a medical practitioner.
- Committing sexual assault.
- Trafficking in weapons, illegal or restricted drugs.
- Committing robbery.
- Giving alcohol to a minor.
- Bullying if: i) The pupil has previously been suspended for engaging in bullying, and ii) the pupil's continuing presence in the school creates an unacceptable risk to the safety of another person.
- Any activity for which a suspension may be imposed that is motivated by bias, prejudice or hate based on race, national or ethnic origin, language, colour, religion, sex, age, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or any other similar factor.
- An act considered by the principal to be significantly injurious to the moral tone of the school and/or to the physical or mental well-being of others.
- A pattern of behaviour that is so inappropriate that the pupil's continued presence is injurious to the effective learning and/or working environment of others.
- Activities engaged in by the pupil on or off school property that cause the pupil's continuing presence in the school to create an unacceptable risk to the physical or mental well-being of

other person(s) in the school or Board.

- Activities engaged in by the pupil on or off school property that have caused extensive damage to the property of the board or to goods that are/were on Board property.
- The pupil has demonstrated through a pattern of behaviour that s/he has not prospered by the instruction available to him or her and that s/he is persistently resistant to making changes in behaviour which would enable him or her to prosper.

Activities for which expulsion must be considered under section 310(1) of the *Education Act*
continued

- Any act considered by the principal to be a serious violation of the requirements for pupil behaviour and/or a serious breach of the Board or school Code of Conduct
- Where a pupil has no history of discipline or behaviour intervention, or no relevant history, a single act, incident or infraction considered by the principal to be a serious violation of the expectations of pupil behaviour and/or a serious breach of the Board or school Code of Conduct

Note: If a pupil is suspended he/she is suspended from his or her school and from engaging in all school-related activities. The student cannot be on any school property within the UCDSB without the permission from the school principal.

