

Don Titus Montessori

Code of Conduct

2026/27

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Our Code of Conduct is designed to provide guidelines for appropriate student behaviour while under the jurisdiction of the school or at any school-sponsored function.

PROHIBITED GROUNDS OF DISCRIMINATION:

In accordance with the “prohibited grounds of discrimination set out in the BC Human Rights Code (RSBC 1996, C.210)”.

- ☐ Students will not discriminate against others on the basis of race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, and age, or for any other reason set out in the Human Rights Code of British Columbia.
- ☐ Neither will a student make gestures, publish, or display anything that would indicate an intention to discriminate against an individual or group, or expose them to contempt or ridicule on the basis of race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status. Physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identify or expression, and age, or for any other reason set out in the Human Rights Code of British Columbia.

RATIONALE

- ☐ To promote a safe, caring and orderly learning environment for all students. We believe in respecting and valuing all people and voices and providing engaging learning opportunities for the students in our school. Our expectations are that students will maintenance an attitude that is cooperative, courteous and respectful.

Students of the school have rights and responsibilities

Their rights are:

- ☐ a good education
- ☐ to be treated with respect
- ☐ a clean and safe environment free from discrimination
- ☐ privacy and personal space

Their responsibilities are:

- ☐ to develop and maintain good study habits
- ☐ to respect the rights of others
- ☐ to maintain a clean and safe environment
- ☐ to treat others well, both physically and emotionally

Some Examples of Acceptable Behaviour:

- ☐ Socially responsible (polite, wait turn, listen appropriately)
- ☐ Empathetic - learning to take the perspective of others
- ☐ Active participant in learning
- ☐ Expressing concerns and needs/ listening to the concerns and needs of others
- ☐ Giving and receiving respect

- ☐ Enthusiastic
- ☐ Helpful
- ☐ Trustworthy and honest
- ☐ Caring for/advocating for self and others
- ☐ Safe use of playground and other equipment

BE SAFE and **BE RESPECTFUL** to **YOURSELF**, to **OTHERS** and to **PROPERTY**.

Some Examples of Unacceptable Behaviour:

- ☐ Verbal or physical aggression
- ☐ Rudeness or swearing
- ☐ Sexual or violent/dangerous behaviour to self or others (throwing objects such as sticks, rocks, snowballs etc.)
- ☐ Gangs
- ☐ Defiant behaviour, insolence, lack of respect, teasing
- ☐ Misusing or damaging property or equipment
- ☐ Use or possession of intoxicating or banned substances (including vape products)

SAFE AND CARING SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTS

Are Free from Acts Of

- ☐ Bullying, cyber-bullying, harassment, and marginalization
- ☐ Threat and intimidation
- ☐ Violence in any form
- ☐ Abuse in any form
- ☐ Discrimination in any form
- ☐ Retribution against anyone who reported an incident

Do Not Tolerate the Misuse Of

- ☐ Cyberspace, Cell Phones, Electronic Devices, Computers, or School Property

Do Not Tolerate the Presence Of

- ☐ Theft or vandalism
- ☐ Intoxicating or banned substances (including vape products)
- ☐ Weapons or replica (toy) weapons and explosives
- ☐ Intruders or trespassers

Consequences:

Consequences will be applied in a fair and consistent manner, respecting individual rights, responsibilities, age and maturity; and be restorative rather than punitive in nature.

Inappropriate Behavior Typically Has the Following Consequences:

- ☐ Review of expectations and a timeout
- ☐ Review of expectations, written assignment and/or loss of privileges
- ☐ Parents are informed

- ☐ Meeting with parents
- ☐ Possible short-term (in school or at home) suspension up to 5 days
- ☐ Possible change in schedule or program
- ☐ Consultation with police and/or fire department
- ☐ Expulsion
- ☐ Restorative practices (restorative conversation, circle and/or conference)
- ☐ Work with staff and family to develop a plan to address the behavior

SCHOOL FIELD TRIPS

As funds permit, it is our policy to encourage Field Trips that are educationally worthwhile.

When Field Trips are proposed a letter will be sent home describing the activity. For all field trips off the school grounds, a signed permission slip must be completed and returned to the school to enable your child to participate.

It is our feeling that a teacher should not have to deal with disruptive students on such occasions nor should other students have their trip spoiled by such students. Consequently, if a teacher feels that a student has shown by his/her behaviour at school that he/she may not be trusted to behave appropriately on a trip, that student will be assigned with work to another class for the duration of the trip. Parents will be informed ahead of time.

Students should be aware that they may be subject to discipline (or, if applicable confiscation of personal property) for misuse of technology if it negatively impacts on the school environment.

RESTRICTIONS ON STUDENT USE OF PERSONAL DIGITAL DEVICES (Updated)

The following expectations must be met:

- A)** As needed, all students will have access to school/district owned technology at an age-appropriate level that supports learning and the development of digital literacy.
- B)** As outlined in an Inclusive and Competency-Based Individual education Plan (ICBIEP), schools will exempt specific students from restrictions on the use of personal digital devices when they are needed to support inclusion in learning.
- C)** Additionally, schools will exempt specific students from restrictions on the use of personal digital devices when they are needed as an essential support for medical plan and needs (i.e. diabetes, medication, etc.).
- D) Personal digital devices at the elementary school level will not be permitted at any time during the school day.**
- E)** The security and storage of personal digital devices is the sole responsibility of the owner/user. The District assumes no responsibility for the safety, security, loss, repair or replacement of such devices.

*Personal digital devices include but are not limited to, cellphones, smartphones, tablets, computers, smartwatches, Bluetooth headphones, and portable video game systems.

STUDENT DRESS CODE

Students are expected to dress appropriately for school, winter and summer. The general rule for the dress code is for students to dress in a manner appropriate to establish a positive learning atmosphere at school. This means that clothes that may be appropriate in other settings may not be appropriate for school.

School administration reserves the right to judge what is or is not appropriate.

The following is agreed upon by staff, administration, and students to provide guidelines around appropriate dress at school.

1. **Footwear must, for safety reasons, be worn at all times.**
2. Clothing of any kind condoning violence, profanity, hatred, discrimination, negative stereotypes, or promoting illegal drug use or abuse of alcohol are not appropriate.

Accommodation of Students with Diversabilities:

Special consideration may apply to students who are unable to comply with the Code of Conduct due to a disability of an intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional or behavioural nature.

Notification

As circumstances warrant, administrators have a responsibility to advise other parties following a behaviour incident:

- ☐ Parent of student exhibiting major behaviours (in every instance)
- ☐ Parent of student (if any) on the receiving end (in every instance)
- ☐ Superintendent, Safe Schools Team Member and/or other District Staff
- ☐ Ministerial agencies and/or School Liaison Officer (Police)

Don Titus Montessori School Code of Conduct has been structured to align with and adhere to the standards outlined in:

- ☐ The School Act
- ☐ B.C. Human Rights Code
- ☐ B.C. Ministry of Education: Safe, Caring and Orderly Schools Guide (2014)

FAIR NOTICE



Student Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) FAIR NOTICE FOR PARENTS/GUARDIAN COMMUNITY



SD59 (Peace River South) is committed to creating and maintaining school environments in which students, staff, parents/guardians/caregivers and others feel safe. Schools cannot ignore any threat of violence.

What is a threat?

- An expression of intent to do harm or act out violently against someone or something.
- May be verbal, written, drawn. Posted on the internet or made by gesture.

Duty to report

- To keep school communities safe and caring, staff, parents/guardians/caregivers, students and community members must report all threat-related behaviours to the school principal.

What is the purpose of a Student Threat Assessment?

- The purposes of a student threat assessment are:
- Ensure and promote the emotional and physical safety of students, staff, parents, the student making the threat, and others.
- Ensure a full understanding of the context of the threat.
- Understand the factors contributing to the threat maker's behaviour.
- Be proactive in developing an intervention plan that addresses the emotional and physical safety of the threat maker.
- Promote the emotional and physical safety of all.

What behaviours warrant a Student Violence Threat Risk Assessment to be initiated?

- A student threat assessment will be initiated for behaviours including, but not limited to:
- Serious violence with intent to harm or kill.
- Verbal/written threats to harm/kill others (clear, direct, and plausible).
- Online threats to harm/kill others.
- Possession of weapons (including replicas).
- Bomb threats (making and/or detonating explosive devices).
- Fire Starting.
- Sexual intimidation or assault.
- Gang related intimidation and violence.

Collection Notice

The school district is subject to the personal information privacy laws, and will undertake the collection of this information in compliance with the requirements of such laws, including by limiting collection to information that is relevant and necessary to address a risk or threat and by ensuring that information is collected from publicly available open source social media sites. The School District will not collect information as part of threat assessment unless there is reason to believe that a risk exists. Information collected as part of a threat assessment may be provided to law enforcement authorities in appropriate circumstances.

What Parents and Students Need to Know

- Any threat must be reported to the school principal
- Investigation may involve the school counselor, the police, or other community agencies.
- Investigation may involve locker or personal property searches.
- Interviews will be held with the threat maker and other students or adults who may have information about the threat.
- Parents of students who are directly involved will be notified.
- Threatening behaviour may result in disciplinary action.
- An intervention plan may be developed for the student making the threat and a support plan developed for any individuals targeted by the threats.
- It is important for all parties to engage in the process. However, if for some reason there is a reluctance to participate in the process by the threat maker or parent / guardian, the VTRA process will continue in order to promote a safe and caring learning environment.

School District 59 Calendar 2026/2027

Tuesday, September 8	Non-Instructional Day: Curriculum Implementation Day
Wednesday, September 9	First Day for Students (arrival 2 hours late, dismissal 1 hour early)
Tuesday, September 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation STAT
Monday, October 12	Thanksgiving Day STAT
Friday, Oct. 23	Non-Instructional Day: Professional Development (District)
Wednesday, November 11	Remembrance Day STAT
Wed & Thurs, Nov 18 & 19	Early Dismissal (1h) for Parent Interviews
Monday, November 30	Non-Instructional Day: Professional Development (School)
Dec 21 to Jan 1	Winter Break (Collective Agreement language - Winter Break starts on the Monday directly preceding Boxing Day)
Monday, January 4	Schools Reopen
Monday, February 1	Non-Instructional Day: Professional Development (School)
Monday, February 15	Family Day STAT
Wed & Thurs, Feb 24 & 25	Early Dismissal (1h) for Parent Interviews
March 15 to March 25	Spring Break (Collective Agreement language - Spring Break starts on the third Monday in March)
Friday, March 26	Good Friday STAT
Monday, March 29	Easter Monday STAT
Tuesday, March 30	Schools Reopen
Monday, April 12	Non-Instructional Day: Professional Development (District)
Friday, May 7	Non-Instructional Day: Truth and Reconciliation
Monday, May 24	Victoria Day STAT
Friday, June 4	Non-Instructional Day: Professional Development (School)
Tuesday, June 29	Last Day of Attendance for Students
Friday, June 30	Non-Instructional Day: Year End Administrative Day

Notes

Kindergarten - required hours of instruction 853 minimum to allow for gradual entry in September

Elementary - required hours of instruction 878 minimum required 4 hours 56 minutes per day

Secondary - required hours of instruction 952 minimum required 5 hours 21 minutes per day

Total Instructional Days: 178

Elementary Terms

Term 1 Sept 9 to Dec 4 (58 instructional days)

Term 2 Dec 7 to Mar 12 (58 instructional days)

Term 3 Mar 30 to June 29 (62 instructional days)

Secondary Semesters

Semester 1 Sept 9 to Jan 29 (88 instructional days)

Semester 2 Feb 2 to June 29 (90 instructional days)

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the 2026/27 school year!

Whether you are new to Don Titus or returning, we are so happy to have you as part of our learning community.

We are looking forward to an engaging year of educating and providing fun and meaningful learning experiences for students. One of our focusses this year is going to be on increasing family and community engagement in the school. We will be reaching out with many opportunities for you to become involved in your child's learning, including parent education nights, volunteering for field trip supervision, helping with practical life skills like cooking and sewing, and general classroom support with reading and math facts. Please consider donating some of your time to enrich the experience for all students at Don Titus.

The staff and I look forward to an exciting year at Don Titus Montessori.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Jody Bougerolle
Principal



"The greatest gifts we can give our children are the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence."

_____*Maria Montessori*_____