

# STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION & PURPOSE

Parkland Immanuel Christian School is committed to a safe, inclusive, equitable, and welcoming learning and teaching environment for all students and staff. Parkland Immanuel Christian School recognizes that all people are created in the image and likeness of God (Genesis 1:26-28, Genesis 5:1-2), and because of this, God requires that all people must be treated with dignity, respect and fairness (1 Corinthians 13:4-7). Furthermore, our Lord Jesus Christ commands us to love our neighbor as ourselves (Matthew 22:39), following His perfect example (John 15:12, 13). Therefore, Parkland Immanuel Christian School will not tolerate harassment, violence, bullying, prejudice or intimidation of students or staff under any circumstances.

## 2.0 EXPECTED CONDUCT

Students of Parkland Immanuel Christian School are expected to present themselves in speech and conduct in a Christ-like fashion (Philippians 4:8; Galatians 5:22-23). Students are to demonstrate respect for and obedience towards the Word of God, including a willingness to be corrected by the Word of God (2 Timothy 3:16, 17). Each student is responsible for acting positively in support of a loving Christian environment by:

- 2.1 Demonstrating respect and obedience towards the Word of God and the Reformed Confessions;
- 2.2 Showing love and respect for oneself and one's neighbor (1 Peter 2:17);
- 2.3 Acting at all times in keeping with the vision and mission underlying the school;
- 2.4 Cooperating with school staff to help make the school a positive learning environment for all;
- 2.5 Knowing and following the rules of the school, including remaining in approved areas of the school or its property during school hours;
- 2.6 Demonstrating care and respect for school property and God's creation, including buildings, structures, landscape features, plants and animals;
- 2.7 Resolving conflicts and difficulties with others in a Christian manner (Matthew 18: 15-20; Galatians 6:1, 2);
- 2.8 Refraining from and refusing to tolerate bullying whether in or outside of the school or school hours or electronically (Philippians 2:3-11; Romans 15:7);
- 2.9 Informing a responsible, trusted and caring adult in a timely manner of incidents of bullying, harassment, intimidation or other unwelcoming or uncaring acts; and
- 2.10 Diligently and actively being prepared to learn, and actively pursuing learning (Colossians 3: 23, 24).

## 3.0 UNACCEPTABLE CONDUCT

When asked what the most important commandment is, Jesus said: "Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself'" (Mark 12:30-31). Therefore, students are to avoid unacceptable behaviours that may negatively-affect a member of the Parkland Immanuel Christian School community or the school's learning environment, whether in or outside of the school or school hours or electronically. Unacceptable behaviours include, but are not limited to:

- 3.1 Physical Violence (Lord's Day 40, Heidelberg Catechism);
- 3.2 Acts of bullying, abuse, harassment or intimidation (Lord's Day 40, Heidelberg Catechism);

- 3.3 Acts of retribution against an individual who has intervened to prevent bullying or informed about bullying or other unacceptable behaviour (Luke 6:36; Proverbs 19:20);
- 3.4 Illegal activities, including those involving illegal or restricted substances, possession or use or threat of use of weapons, and theft or damage to property;
- 3.5 Smoking or using tobacco products, as well as using, possessing, or being under the influence of alcohol or illicit drugs, at school or on school related activities (Ephesians 5:18);
- 3.6 Inappropriate use of Internet services, either by accessing, uploading, downloading, or distributing material that the school has determined to be objectionable.
- 3.7 Inappropriate dancing, music, or other conduct that does not encourage holiness, purity and respect for one another;
- 3.8 Inappropriate physical contact, including contact of a sexual nature (Ephesians 5:3);
- 3.9 Blasphemy or coarse language (Exodus 20:7; Ephesians 5:4).

#### 4.0 CONSEQUENCES

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a Christ-like manner in keeping with their responsibilities as students. The school will investigate each instance of unacceptable conduct and pursue disciplinary action in a manner consistent with the school's student discipline policy, while taking into account the student's age, maturity, and individual circumstances. In grave circumstances, when an individual is found to have engaged in unacceptable or illegal conduct may be subject to suspension or expulsion and/or contact with public authorities. Parents will be notified of the incident and work with the school to prevent such behaviour in the future.

#### 5.0 REMEDIATION AND SUPPORT

In order to foster a positive Christian learning environment, Parkland Immanuel Christian School will engage in reasonable and caring efforts to achieve reconciliation and unity, in the spirit of Matthew 18: 15-19. Students and staff will be encouraged to seek reconciliation with one another, and if required, seek mediation through a third party. Support will be provided for students who are impacted by inappropriate behaviour, as well as for students who engage in inappropriate behaviour.

Supportive actions may include, but are not limited to:

- 5.1 Mentoring of individual students by staff members and/or older students;
- 5.2 Regular meetings involving parents, teachers, and individual students;
- 5.3 Facilitation of student peer support groups (as described in the school's Safe and Caring Policy document);
- 5.4 Professional Services (e.g. Christian Counselling);
- 5.5 Pastoral services through a Canadian Reformed or United Reformed Church;
- 5.6 Restorative justice processes.