



Student Code of Conduct and Discipline

Montessori School of Calgary provides a safe environment for all members of the school community to work and learn. We are committed to a safe, caring, respectful, inclusive, equitable and welcoming learning and teaching environment. The Student Code of Conduct and Discipline supports and respects the individuality of all students and aims to create a positive and supportive environment focused on providing the best possible learning opportunity for each student.

Key to fostering growth in our students is the relationship between school and home as well as the commitment of families and staff to the Montessori philosophy. The staff and administration of MSofC work collaboratively with students and parents in setting appropriate standards for conduct and in maintaining high standards in this regard. Reinforcing positive student conduct contributes to the continual evolution of a culture of mutual respect amongst all members of the MSofC community. Student conduct must respect the rights, maturity, dignity and emotional and social health of all individuals. When conduct issues do emerge, staff work together with parents and children to develop a fair and equitable resolution that supports students' growth and development. Children learn that freedom and discipline co-exist. The core expectations of the classrooms are:

1. Respect yourself
2. Respect others
3. Respect the environment

Consistent with Section 12 of the School Act, and in keeping with the mission and vision of Montessori School of Calgary, each employee and student is responsible for acting positively in support of a welcoming and caring learning environment by:

- Acting at all times in keeping with the vision and mission of our school
- Respecting oneself and the rights of others in our school
- Conducting oneself in a manner that contributes to a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging
- Refraining from and refusing to tolerate bullying whether in or outside of the school or school hours or electronically
- Informing a responsible, trusted and caring adult in a timely manner of incidents of bullying, harassment, intimidation or other unwelcoming or uncaring acts
- Attending school regularly and punctually
- Diligently and actively being prepared to learn and actively pursuing learning
- Being accountable for individual behaviours to students, teachers and school staff.

Compliance

Students are expected to conduct themselves in keeping with their responsibilities as students of the school. Taking into consideration the student's age, maturity and individual circumstances, Montessori School of Calgary will investigate each instance of unacceptable conduct and pursue disciplinary action in a matter consistent with the principles of fundamental justice and this Student Code of Conduct and Discipline.

Students are provided parameters in which to work, and when a child tests the environment outside of these parameters the child is gently reminded of the guidelines and how it affects themselves as well as other students.

Classroom behaviour and expectations are modelled daily by all teaching and administrative staff. The classroom teacher is responsible for the primary intervention in disciplinary situations occurring in the classroom, on the playground or at locations off-site. Redirection is the first approach to discipline.

If after these redirections and opportunities to practice improved behaviour the student does not meet these expectations, the child is brought in close to the teacher and shadows that staff member for a period.

If the behaviour continues repeatedly, the child engages in a private conversation with the staff member allowing the child the opportunity for a better understanding of how to correct the behaviour.

If undesirable behaviour persists, the Head of School is involved and if necessary, parents may be contacted.

For offenses of a more serious or repeating nature (i.e., physical violence, fighting, threats, vandalism, bullying) the Head of School may suspend the student in accordance with Section 21 of the Education Act – Private Schools Regulation and in keeping with the Education Act s36 and s37. In severe circumstances, an individual found to have engaged in unacceptable conduct may be subject to possible expulsion. Parents are notified both verbally and in writing of the incident and the suspension or expulsion. (Updated February 2021)