



# Our Lady of Good Counsel School

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## OLGC School Student Discipline Policy

One of the major roles of Our Lady of Good Counsel School is to develop socially responsible, inner directed, and self-disciplined persons capable of choosing freely in accordance with a well-formed conscience. This conscience is reinforced by the rules and norms established by the school and the classroom teacher.

Discipline at OLGC School is meant to develop within the students' courtesy and respect for themselves, their teachers, other adults and their fellow students. Rules and policies are also set to insure the safety and health of all the students. When these rules are not followed consequences result that may lead to suspension or in extreme situations expulsion from school. When this occurs decisions are made in accordance with "procedural fairness" and natural justice principles as outlined in the Procedural Fairness Best Practice Guidelines for Independent Schools.

### A. CLASSROOM CONDUCT

Emphasis is placed on developing good habits in work, play and study. The effectiveness of any learning situation relies on the positive participation and self-discipline of the students. Both teachers and students function best in an atmosphere that is purposeful, responsive and conducive to learning, and free of disruption. Students who come to class unprepared for their lessons, with an unreceptive or negative attitude, unwilling to apply themselves to the learning task, or disrupting the class with unnecessary talking and/or inappropriate conduct will be corrected. If the inappropriate conduct persists, the parents will be contacted. In certain instances the principal may also be involved. Cell phones use is not permitted during the school day.

### B. STUDENT SAFETY AND SECURITY

At Our Lady of Good Counsel we strive to create a safe, caring, respectful and welcoming school environment where **all** are accepted regardless of their gender, race, religion, culture, sexual orientation or gender identity and expression.

This environment is characterized by positive relationships between students, staff and parents. Every student has the right to an education and the right to be and feel safe in and around the school. Therefore, everyone has rights and responsibilities in cultivating and maintaining a safe environment where **all** have the right to belong.

Our Lady of Good Counsel School does not tolerate aggressive or violent behaviour. This includes deliberate acts intended to harm, intimidate, alienate or injure another person. Aggressive retaliation also falls into this category. OLGC School community works to protect each student's physical safety, social connectedness, inclusiveness and protection from all forms of harassment, bullying or cyber-bullying, regardless of their gender, race, culture, religion, sexual orientation or gender identity.

Students and parents are advised that weapons or replicas of any kind are prohibited on the school premises or at any school event. A weapon is defined as:

1. anything used or intended for use for the purpose of threatening or intimidating any person; or
2. anything used or intended for use in causing death or injury.

Student who has brought a dangerous object to school will be subject to disciplinary action. Carrying a concealed weapon is contrary to the Criminal Code of Canada. Anyone convicted of such a charge is liable for imprisonment.

Please consult the school website for the **Fair Notice Policies** for students and parents in regards to Violent Threat Risk Assessment.

## CONSEQUENCES

Any student who assaults, displays aggressive and/or violent behavior towards another individual, or harasses, or bullies/or cyber bullies another person, is subject to suspension. This behavior may also lead to expulsion. The RCMP may be involved.

Any student who

- assaults another person with or without a weapon; or
- brings a weapon to school; or
- displays or brandishes a weapon in a threatening or intimidating manner is subject to immediate suspension or expulsion.

A student's age, maturity and or special needs will be taken into consideration when making the decision about appropriate consequences.

The principal shall notify the student's parent/guardian, and may refer the matter to the police. The principal will initiate suspension procedures that may lead to expulsion. Police investigation may result in arrest and criminal charges.

All reasonable steps will be made to prevent retaliation by a person against a student who has made a complaint.

## GROSS MISCONDUCT

A serious breach of discipline may result in a student's immediate suspension or expulsion at the discretion of the principal. Serious matters include but not limited to:

1. Repeated failure to obey school regulations.
2. Defiance of authority and disrespect to teachers, supervisors and parent volunteers.
3. Aggressive behavior and carrying or using potentially dangerous instruments such as knives, guns, firecrackers, matches, etc.
4. Stealing materials from a student, staff member, the school, etc.
5. Continual harassment of another student.
6. Continual Bullying or cyber bullying of another student.

**Three (3) suspensions in one (1) school year may result in expulsion.**

**Parents are expected to reimburse the school for damages to or theft of school property.**

**Full Discipline Policy is in the OLG Student/Parent Handbook p 17-20.**

**Please see CISVA Code of Conduct Policy # 407.**