

## Code of Conduct

At Betty Gilbert Middle we expect the best. We want our students to be able to empathize with others and have the moral courage to make the right decisions. We are confident our parents will partner with us in using Restorative Action, where all adults in our school community establish and reinforce clear expectations.

### *If any students:*

- a) bully, disrespect, interfere with, or endanger other students
- b) are disrespectful toward school buildings, property, and the property of others
- c) are disrespectful towards adults or peers
- d) refuse to comply with a directive from any adult staff member at a school (including teachers and teaching assistants, parents acting as chaperones or coaches, noon hour supervisors, etc.),

***then they will be held accountable, and are subject to disciplinary consequences for their behaviour.***

Langley School District policy lists “progressive discipline” (gradually increasing in severity) as the procedure for teachers and administrators to use, commencing with detentions. A teacher may detain a student during recess or lunch, or for 25 minutes after school, so the students can make restitution for poor behaviour, for lateness, or incomplete class assignments and projects. The student will be provided with access to a phone in order to inform parents/guardians.

Administrators may apply recess or lunch-hour restrictions, detentions, in-school suspensions, out-of-school suspensions, and referrals to the School District Office. Under the School Act, the school Principal and Vice Principal are given the authority to suspend students. Parents may appeal a disciplinary decision to the Board, but the Board will always review student behaviour data with school administration.

In those cases where children make poor choices, break rules, harm school property or damage the respectful relationship between themselves and their peers, or between themselves and the adults in the school, **Betty Gilbert staff will work to help the student:**

- a) realize the harm their choice has done**
- b) do every bit of work that is needed to make restitution for the harm they have done**
- c) understand the disciplinary consequences of their actions**

## **Bullying and Harassment**

Bullying or harassment in any form will result in students being held accountable for their actions and words, and being subject to school discipline. These two terms are defined as:

**Bullying:** is any single act of intimidation, threatening, put downs, making fun of another person or persons. It is also defined as an individual imposing his/her will on another person through intimidation or violence. It consists of an individual or group acting or speaking aggressively or disrespectfully towards another individual or group due to a perceived imbalance of power.

**Harassment:** is repeated incidents of bullying. Reports on school-occurring bullying or harassment should IMMEDIATELY come to administrators from students, eye-witnesses, parents or staff

members. School District Policy #7200 provides forms and a process for victims or witnesses to report on the harassment, and put this report into a documented official complaint for investigation.

### **Closed Campus**

BGMS will be a closed campus; that is no one will be allowed to leave the school premises after arriving in the morning unless they have a note from a parent. Also, no high school students will be allowed on site unless first going to the office to identify themselves.

### **Clothing**

School is a place of business and clothing must reflect this. Therefore:

1. Tops must meet pants
2. No underwear may show
3. Clothing displaying language that is racially offensive, profane, contains sexual innuendo, or promotes any form of violence or harassment will not be allowed
4. Clothing must not promote the use of products that are illegal such as tobacco, drugs or alcohol
5. Shorts and skirts should reach mid thigh
6. Necklines must be appropriate (no spaghetti straps or halter tops)

If staff determine that a student's clothing is inappropriate, students will be immediately drawn aside for a private conversation. Staff will insist that students comply with this dress code. If students cannot provide proper clothing, they will be given clean clothes to wear from the office.

### **Gum**

Individual classroom teachers will determine if gum chewing is allowed in their classroom. Gum chewing will not be allowed in common areas such as hallways, the library, gym, multipurpose or music rooms.

### **Hats**

Hats will not be worn indoors at Betty Gilbert Middle except on special spirit days. Individual classroom teachers at ACSS will determine whether hats are allowed during exploration classes at ACSS.

### **Language**

Students will be expected to use proper language for a school, both inside the building and outside. Therefore swearing, disrespectful or racist language, either verbal or written, will not be tolerated at any time. Students may expect immediate consequences for use of improper language.

### **Lunchtime**

We do not have a cafeteria, so students will eat lunch in their classroom, sitting at their desks. Students will eat before going outside. Inside behaviour will be expected, and insisted upon at all times. After the eating period there will be activities such as clubs and intramurals.

**Personal Technology**

All personal technology such as cell phones and iPods are to remain in the students' lockers from the time they arrive at school to the time they leave. This means they will not be taken out at recess or lunchtime. Any student using any such device during school time will be asked to bring it to the office for safekeeping until the end of the day. Subsequent offences will lead to longer periods without their device.

**Physical Contact**

'Hands and feet to yourself' will govern our behaviour. This means no tackle football, rough play or play fighting. A simple hug when greeting someone is acceptable, but displays of affection such as kissing or extended hugging are not.

**Snowballs**

Snowballs may only be thrown in designated areas, at designated times, and under supervision.

**Signatures required.**

**I have read and agree to follow the BGMS Code of Conduct:**

**Student's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I have read and discussed the BGMS Code of Conduct with my child:**

**Parents' Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_