

**Edmonton Catholic Schools**  
**Cardinal Collins High School and Fresh Start Academic Centers.**  
*Code of Student Conduct.*

It is our belief that students of a Catholic high school are major partners in the creation of an effective learning environment. To this end, students and staff in our schools work each day to establish and maintain a welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging within our schools.

Our schools are a vibrant part of the communities in which they serve. This is realized when everyone understands the collective responsibility to establish and continually maintain an appropriate balance between the individual rights of each person and collective rights of everyone around them. Our students understand that these expectations of behavior apply to everyone while at school, at a school-related activity in the community or while engaging in an activity that may have an impact on others in the school.

It is important to state that achieving a safe and caring environment is an ongoing process that all members of a school will strive to create each day. In order to accomplish this, students must realize that our schools prohibit discrimination in all forms on the basis of an individual's race, color, ancestry, place of origin, religious beliefs, gender (including pregnancy, sexual harassment, and gender identity), physical disability, mental disability, marital status, family status, source of income, or sexual orientation. *We affirm that the rights set out in the Alberta Human Rights Act and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms are afforded to all students and staff members within Cardinal Collins High School and our Fresh Start Academic Centers.*

**Acceptable behavior**

Students are expected to contribute to the positive nature of the school by acting in a mature manner. The atmosphere we create is suitable for motivated, independent people who want to further themselves by taking advantage of the educational opportunities we offer. Students are expected to follow at all times the behaviours outlined below which are modeled on a daily basis by our staff. The statements below are not an exhaustive list:

- Respect yourself and the rights of others in the school.

- Make sure your conduct contributes to a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment in the school that respects the diversity and fosters a sense of belonging of others in your school.
- Refrain from, report and refuse to tolerate bullying or bullying behavior, even if it happens outside of the school or school hours or electronically.
- Inform an adult you trust in a timely manner of incidents of bullying, harassment, intimidation or other safety concerns in the school.
- Act in ways that honors and appropriately represents you and your school.
- Attend school regularly and punctually.
- Be ready to learn and actively engage in and diligently pursue your education.
- Know and comply with the rules of your school.
- Cooperate with all school staff.
- Be accountable for your behavior to your teachers and other school staff.
- Contribute positively to your school and your community.

### **Unacceptable behavior**

It is the expectation of our schools that students understand and fully comply with Section 31 of the Education Act. The Act clearly states that students must realize that they will be held accountable for unacceptable conduct whether or not the behaviors occur outside of the school building or school day and electronically (e.g. any form of social media), if the conduct negatively affects a member of the school or interferes with the overall school environment. While school staff are not able to control what students do outside of school, where that behavior spills into the school environment, there may be consequences for that behavior.

Examples of these types of unacceptable behaviors include but are not limited to the following:

- Behaviors that interfere with the learning of others and/or the school environment or that create unsafe conditions.
- Acts of bullying, harassment, or intimidation.
- Physical violence.
- Retribution against any person in the school who has intervened to prevent or report bullying or any other incident or safety concern.
- Illegal activity such as: possession, use or distribution of illegal or restricted substances, possession or use of weapons, theft or damage to property.

### **Consequences of unacceptable behavior.**

Students must be aware that failure to comply with Section 31 of the Education Act may lead to consequences for that student(s). Identified unacceptable behavior will take into

account the student's age, maturity, and individual circumstances. The specific circumstances of any situation will be investigated fully and an appropriate consequence will be applied to each situation. The full range of possible consequences will be communicated to affected students deemed to be participating in unacceptable behavior. In all cases, the final decision of any disciplinary action taken rests with the principal or designate of the school. In cases of extreme behaviors the student may be referred to Edmonton Catholic District School Operations for transfer or expulsion from the school or district.

### **Supports for students**

Our students' ongoing success in their educational path is our primary concern. In order to support this on an ongoing basis; appropriate supports will be provided to students impacted by inappropriate behavior and to those students who engage in inappropriate behavior. There are many support mechanisms available to students at each of our schools, these include:

- Teacher advisor connection and regular follow up.
- Support from our STAY officer.
- Our Lady of Grace (OLOG)
- Social workers – access to outside supports
- AHS – Mental Health Therapists / School Psychologists
- School Counsellors
- ASIST program
- Braided Journeys (FNMI)
- Ongoing connection and coordination from site administration.
- Grad Coach / Learning Coach