

Wellington

Middle School Code of Conduct: Discipline Policy 2020-2021

RESPONSIBILITIES

Wellington students are expected to demonstrate responsibility in the following areas:

- Responsibility for their time
- Responsibility for their belongings
- Responsibility for their words
- Responsibility for their actions

If students maintain their responsibilities, their time in the middle school will be productive and positive. We, as a faculty, are committed to helping students as they work toward self-improvement. As a community, parents and faculty must work together to build a responsible environment thereby upholding the mission, policies, and consequences by which we function. In the middle school, we have disciplinary guidelines in place for inappropriate behavior. Since each situation is unique, these consequences serve as guidelines for us and we use them as a means to hold students accountable for their actions while helping them learn from their misbehavior.

The Middle School Discipline Policy:

- strengthens students and builds character.
- is a way of teaching personal and social responsibility.
- is an approach that builds and improves relationships.
- provides students with a restorative justice option.
- is a proactive process that provides students with a voice and choice.

Level I action that may lead to a concern or reflection:

- Rudeness
- Gum chewing/snack policy violation
- Uniform violation
- Class disruption
- Hall disturbance
- Playing games/using social networks on Chromebooks/Netbooks without permission
- Insubordination (e.g. multiple warnings about gum-chewing/uniform violation)
- Intentional abuse or neglect of school property
- Disrespect/Defiance/Incivility to students and faculty (through inappropriate words or body language)

The student and teacher will discuss the student's behavior and why a concern or reflection has been issued. Reflections require the student to reflect on his/her behavior in writing. After the student completes a reflection, follow up with the teacher will occur.

- One or two reflections – Follow up with student and teacher
- Three reflections – Follow up with student, peer council and dean; parents informed
- Four or Five reflections – Follow up with student, peer council, dean and advisor; parents informed

Level II actions that may lead to a reflection with peer council, or and the dean:

- Kicking/Pushing/Other aggressive physical contact
- Bus disruption
- Field trip misbehavior
- Failure to be under supervision
- Taking materials without specific permission
- Improper sexual comments or actions
- Profanity and inappropriate gesturing
- Disrespect towards classmates
- Intentional abuse, misuse, or neglect of school-issued Chromebooks or other school property

Level III actions that may lead to a suspension or expulsion:

- Repeated offenses
- Skipping class or a scheduled activity
- Fighting
- Bullying words and/or actions, spitting, etc. (even in jest)
- Hazing
- Disrespect toward staff or faculty members
- Property damage
- Computer abuse (going to inappropriate chat rooms, web sites, sending vulgar emails, etc.)
- Gambling
- Cheating
- Lying
- Plagiarism (including Internet)
- Theft
- Sexual misconduct
- Use of drugs or alcohol (See Drug and Alcohol Policy)

If a student repeatedly violates the rules or if his/her misconduct is severe in nature, he/she will be suspended for a period time. In most cases involving a suspension, a conference with the head of middle school and/or dean must be held prior to a student's return.

Suspension may be served in or out of school, depending on the decision reached by the administrative team. Threats, overt violent acts, or excessive harassment may result in a suspension pending documentation of a risk assessment from an outside mental health professional. Comments about harming others or one's self (even in jest) will be taken seriously, and the student may be asked to remain home until a risk assessment can be made.

Note: The absence of a specific behavior from these lists does not mean the absence of consequences. The school reserves the right to discipline in response to any behavior deemed unsafe, unethical, inappropriate, or contrary to the mission of the institution or good practice.

We have read and agree to abide by the Code of Conduct: Discipline Policy

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____