# Lord Aylmer Elementary Code of Conduct 2025 – 2026

Approved by GB on: May 21st, 2025 \*Amendment approved on November 26, 2025\*

\*Please note that throughout this document staff also includes administration\*

#### Rationale:

In order to promote better understanding by all members of the school community, the staff, parents, and students of Lord Aylmer Elementary School, we have adopted the following statement of educational and safety responsibilities and rights as the basis of our Code of Conduct.

A school is a place that provides equal learning opportunity for all students. In addition to the regular curriculum, good citizenship must be taught and demonstrated. Students are expected to learn responsibility for rules and regulations adopted for the benefit of all, and to demonstrate appreciation for the rights of others.

The Code of Conduct ensures that all students, parents/guardians, teachers, and staff have the right to feel safe in their school community. The support of parents/guardians for this Code of Conduct is essential to its success, as we work in partnership with our school community and share the same values and expectations. Therefore, the standards of behaviour in the Code of Conduct apply not only to students, but also to all individuals involved in the school system (parents/guardians, volunteers, teachers, and other staff members) while on school property, on school buses, or at school authorized events or activities.

Below are listed the rights and responsibilities/expectations involved in a positive, cooperative school and the consequences for unacceptable behaviour.

| <b>Expectations of Students</b>    | <b>Expectations of School Staff</b> | Expectations of<br>Parents/Guardians |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
|                                    |                                     |                                      |
| -To come to school on time         | -To provide an effective role       | -To send their children to school    |
| -Be prepared and ready to learn    | model to students and to help       | regularly, punctually and            |
| -To follow our anti-violence/anti- | them reach their human potential    | prepared for learning                |
| bullying rules at all times        | -To respect ethnic, racial,         | -To promptly report to the school    |
| -To show respect for the rights,   | religious, gender, orientation,     | their child's absence or late        |
| feelings, and property of all      | intellectual and physical           | arrival                              |
| school community members           | differences in others               | -To ensure that the school has       |
| -To respect ethnic, racial,        | -To demonstrate care and            | current emergency information        |
| religious, gender, orientation,    | commitment to students by           | that will allow the school to        |
| intellectual and physical          | providing an inviting, safe, and    | reach a parent or guardian           |
| differences in others              | positive learning environment       | when/if necessary                    |
| -To practice safe and responsible  | characterized by high               | -To show an active interest in       |
| behaviour at all times and to      | expectations for success            | their children's schoolwork and      |
| follow all classroom, school and   | -To ensure a variety of             | progress and encourage a             |
| community rules                    | instructional practices and to      | positive attitude towards learning   |
| _                                  | respond to students' individual     |                                      |

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-To follow all learning
experiences to the best of
his/her/their ability
-To inform teachers,
parents/guardians, and other staff
with regard to any concerns
related to physical, social,
emotional, or academic issues
-Students are responsible to
manage their own belongings
-To communicate and work
with all school community
members in a courteous, fair,
and respectful manner

needs in order to support improved student performance -To communicate and work collaboratively with students, parents/guardians and other school personnel on issues related to students' social, emotional, and academic progress

- -To support students in working to develop self-confidence and to strengthen their sense of selfworth
- -To communicate and work with all school community members in a courteous, fair, and respectful manner

-To communicate any situation that may impact upon their child's learning

-To communicate with school personnel on issues related to their student's social, emotional, and academic progress

-To respect ethnic, racial, religious, gender, orientation, intellectual and physical differences in others

-To encourage and support children in following the rules of behaviour by being familiar with the Lord Aylmer Code of Conduct and school rules as outlined in the agenda

-To communicate and work with all school community members in a courteous, fair, and respectful manner

# Students have the right to...

- An equal learning opportunity
- An appropriate and challenging program
- Feel safe at school
- Freedom from physical and verbal harassment
- A pleasant school atmosphere
- Assistance from teachers and school staff
- Discipline in a fair, firm, and consistent manner

## Students have the responsibility/expectation to...

- Be punctual and attend regularly
- Demonstrate a positive attitude and good work habits
- Respect the rights of other students and all school personnel
- Complete all assigned work punctually
- Be aware of opportunities to participate in activities offered both during and after school hours
- Exhibit self-discipline by following school rules, both in and out of the classroom and during any school sponsored activity
- Be honest and trustworthy
- Report bullying and violent incidents to an adult at school and at home
- Be courteous, use respectful language and good manners
- Treat with respect the environment, lockers, equipment and materials belonging to the school, staff and other students
- Wear appropriate clothing
- To follow the code of conduct when representing Lord Aylmer on and off school property

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# Teachers have the right to...

- Expect appropriate behaviour in the classroom, throughout the school, and in all other educational settings (e.g., on the bus, school trips)
- Receive support from the Principal and parents/guardians in the performance of their duties
- Expect support from administration to help students reach their full potential
- Expect cooperation from all students in the carrying out of student responsibilities as highlighted in the Code of Conduct during all school functions

#### Teachers have the responsibility to...

- Be fair, firm and friendly in dealing with students
- Inform students of expectations of acceptable behaviour
- Report progress and conduct to administration and parents/guardians
- Provide feedback to students on progress
- Take responsibility for all students in the school, when required
- Encourage good effort, improvement and citizenship
- Plan, implement and evaluate the Quebec Education Program
- Encourage excellence in all academic endeavours based on individual differences
- Report incidents of concern to administration AND appropriate authorities

# Parents/Guardians have the right to...

- Know that students will be provided with an excellent educational experience that adheres to the <u>Basic School Regulation</u>
- Know that their children are attending a safe and secure school environment
- Expect that classes will be conducted in an orderly manner
- Expect teachers to act in a kind but firm and judicious manner
- Receive regular communications from the school
- Confer with the school regarding any concerns for their child

## Parents/Guardians have the responsibility to...

- Encourage positive attitudes in their children towards school, learning and behaviour
- Ensure regular attendance and promptness
- Provide or seek support in ensuring the overall physical, social and emotional wellbeing of your child
- Provide support and appropriate time and place for reinforcement of academic content
- Cooperate with the school to develop appropriate student behaviour
- Communicate appropriately with staff concerning your child's progress
- Contact the school regarding concerns
- Encourage children to become involved in activities sponsored by the school
- Be your child's advocate

# **Discipline Policy**

At Lord Aylmer Elementary our first approach is always to work with the student and parent(s) to find the source of the frustration that is causing the troubling behaviour. It is important to note that parent/guardian consultation will take place whenever the misbehaviour is of a serious nature, when required.

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However, depending on the behaviour, a range of consequences are available to school personnel which should provide the flexibility necessary to meet the wide range of situations and individuals that may be encountered. A student who does not meet the expectations of this code of conduct will be dealt with fairly and consistently by the staff. Our aim is to help the student deal with the frustration and teach them to improve their behaviour. The rights of the individual as well as the collective rights of school and community will be considered. The following consequences are possible after a breach of the code of conduct:

Consequences will not necessarily be imposed in sequential order but will depend greatly on the severity, frequency and duration of the behaviour and at the discretion of the administration or administrations designate.

- Discussion with the student by a staff member to talk about the problem in order to avoid another instance.
- Assignment of a specific task to help the student understand the expectations.
- Detention of the student, usually to do classroom assignments to make up for lost or wasted instructional time.
- Consultation with parents/guardians regarding the student
- Withdrawal of privileges where the student loses the opportunity to participate in activities where appropriate behaviour is essential.
- Restitution or community service where the student loses freedom at recesses and/or lunch time and performs tasks to enhance the school environment, or to repair or replace damaged or lost property.
- Withdrawal of the student from the class setting to another workplace within the school for a specific length of time.
- Suspension from school where the student does not attend school according to the authority of the Education Act.
- Intervention of or referral to Resource personnel (e.g., Resource teacher, Special Education Technician, Transition Agent etc.).
- Involvement of or referral to outside agencies e.g., CLSC, CISSSO, Police, Youth Protection.
- Expulsion by the School Board from all schools under its jurisdiction.

## **School Rules and Regulations**

## **School Access:**

The playground is supervised 15 minutes before the commencement of the school day (7:45am). Adults will be there to monitor students at this time only. Students arriving before 7:45 am will be sent to daycare and charged the appropriate rate. In the case of inclement weather, the supervisors will permit the students to enter the school building upon arriving at school. Additionally, school ends at 2:40pm (JR) and 2:45pm (SR); a grace period of 15 minutes will be given to pick up your child. After this, your child will be sent to daycare and charged the appropriate rate. \*In the case your child is attending an extra-curricular outside of normal school hours and has a designated pick-up time; a grace period of 10 minutes will be given and after this your child will be sent to daycare and charged the appropriate rate.

All parents/guardians of students and visitors to the school must enter the building through the main entrance **ONLY.** All visitors must report to the office and receive and wear a visitor's pass before proceeding to any other area of the school. Parents/guardians collecting students must wait in the lobby for their children.

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# Attendance and Punctuality:

Punctuality is important and it is the responsibility of our students to be on time for school. All students entering after 8:00am (JR) or 8:05am (SR) must report to the office with a guardian to verify their attendance. Requests for early dismissal (i.e. medical appointment) require parent/guardian contact with the office. Any changes to end of day routine must be called into the office before 1:45pm.

#### **Absences:**

Frequent absences without justification will result in administration contacting parent(s)/guardian(s). This could also result in the contact of outside services.

# **Appropriate Dress:**

- Students, staff, and parents/guardians when volunteering at school, will not wear clothing that promotes the following: inappropriate language, vulgarities, discrimination.
- All students, staff, and parents/guardians volunteering at the school, have the right to dress in a manner consistent with their gender identity or gender expression.
- While hats and hoods are permitted at school, they must not interfere or distract with either the learning of the individual or other students in class (ex. hood pulled shut, large, costume-style hat). Head dresses or head coverings worn for religious or medical purposes are exempt.
- Clothing should be comfortable and appropriate for active engagement in the classroom, recess, and physical education keeping in mind the weather conditions (including footwear).
- Clothing and/or jewellery that bear suggestive or objectionable printing such as those used in the advertisement of alcohol, drugs, sex, violence, or those containing racist/hateful comments are not to be worn
- For safety reasons, students should have proper footwear at school for inside the building and separate footwear for outside the building

Failure to comply with the dress code will result in a request to change. Continued failure to comply with the dress code will result in a request for parents/guardians to meet with the principal to discuss the problem. All dress code violations are at the discretion of the administration and/or administrations designate.

#### **Behaviour/Conduct:**

Behaviour and conduct should show respect for self, others and property. It should be reflective of a safe school environment.

Education Act (chapter I-13.3, s. 76, 2nd par.).

#### Therefore, the following will apply:

- (1) respect the authority of school staff and the rules of the school, including those of the classroom;
- (2) act and communicate with other students and school staff in a respectful, courteous and polite manner at all times and irrespective of the communication method used;
- (3) not commit any acts of intimidation or violence;
- (4) use a formal form of address when speaking to school staff;

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- (5) use the title "madam" or "sir" to address school staff for the context of Lord Aylmer Ms., Mrs., Mme., Mr., or Monsieur will suffice;
- (6) respect the right to privacy of other students and school staff, in particular by obtaining their consent before capturing images or recording voices, and by using social media appropriately;
- (7) be diligent and punctual by respecting in particular the applicable schedules and deadlines;
- (8) take good care of school materials, infrastructures and equipment;
- (9) comply with the school dress code, where applicable.
  - No weapons or weapon-like devices including toys
  - Absolutely no fighting
  - No physically or verbally abusive behaviour
  - Follow the routines established by the staff
  - Demonstrate socially acceptable manners
  - When appropriate, seek staff assistance to resolve conflicts

## **Appropriate Language:**

Students are expected to demonstrate socially acceptable language. Therefore, the following will apply:

- No profanity
- No suggestive comments including sexist, racist, bigoted, or provocative comments
- No rude, challenging, or discriminatory comments or gestures toward students or members of the staff

# **Electronics/Toys:**

Electronics (any device capable of communicating with or accessing the internet, such as—but not limited to—smartphones, tablets, smartwatches, headphones, etc.) are **not permitted for personal use on school property**. The only exception is on buses.

Each class has a designated "device drop" where students may leave their devices at the start of the day and collect them once classes are dismissed. Alternatively, students may keep their device in their school bag, concealed, for the entire school day. Please note that school staff are not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged personal electronic devices. This policy also applies during field trips.

#### **Exceptions**

Use of electronics may be permitted only in the following cases, with approval from school administration:

- A documented health condition.
- Pedagogical purposes, as determined by the teacher.
- Specific needs of a student with a disability or who is experiencing adjustment or learning difficulties.

# **Consequences for Personal Use of Electronics**

- **First Offence** The device will be confiscated and returned to the student at the end of the day.
- **Second Offence** The device will be confiscated and must be picked up by a parent/guardian from the office.

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• **Repeated Offences** – Additional consequences may be applied at the discretion of the school administration or their designate.

Toys are not to be brought to school. If a student brings a toy to school, it will be confiscated until the end of the day and returned upon the day's completion. Additional measures may be put into place at the subject of the school administration/the administrations delegate.

- \*Exception\* Recess Equipment. Students may bring recess equipment to play with during their morning, lunch and afternoon recesses.
- Acceptable recess equipment
  - Mini Sticks
  - Basketball
  - Soccer Balls
  - o Football
  - Skipping Ropes
  - o Frisbees (soft or standard, avoid rigid plastic in extreme cold)
  - Beanbags
  - Velcro catch ball sets (e.g., "sticky ball" paddles)
- Please note that the equipment must be easily transported by the student.
- Please note: if the equipment is not used for its intended purpose, the staff may confiscate the item and require a parent/guardian to pick up the item for safe return.

The school does provide recess equipment such as the items listed above; however, if a student would like to bring something from home, they are more than welcome to. Please label your child's equipment. The school is not responsible for lost or broken items.

#### **Bullying and Harassment:**

We believe that all students, teachers, staff members, and parents/guardians have the right to freedom from harassment and/or bullying at school. We understand the detrimental and serious effects which may result from derogatory comments or conduct based on race, gender, orientation, disability, cognitive differences, family status, ethnic origin, citizenship, ancestry, age, etc. These behaviours undermine our school environment as a whole.

#### Definitions:

**Bullying:** The word "bullying" means any repeated direct or indirect behaviour, comment, act or gesture, whether deliberate or not, including in cyberspace, which occurs in a context where there is a power imbalance between the persons concerned and which causes distress and injures, hurts, oppresses, intimidates or ostracizes.

#### LINK - Bill 56: An Act to Prevent and Stop Bullying and Violence in Schools

- 1. Bullying is aggressive behaviour that involves unwanted, negative actions.
- 2. Bullying involves a pattern of behaviour repeated over time.
- 3. Bullying involves an imbalance of power or strength.

Violence: The word "violence" means any intentional demonstration of verbal, written, physical, psychological or

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sexual force which causes distress and injures, hurts or oppresses a person by attacking their psychological or physical integrity or well-being, or their rights or property.

# LINK - Bill 56: An Act to Prevent and Stop Bullying and Violence in Schools

**Sexual Violence:** The concept of sexual violence as used in the Integrated Violence Strategy includes reference to issues of sexual assault, sexual exploitation and sexual harassment, including their various manifestations. Anchored in a dynamic of power imbalance, exposing victims to multiple consequences and violating fundamental rights.

LINK - Contrer la violence sexuelle, la violence conjugale et Rebâtir la confiance - Stratégie gouvernementale intégrée 2022-2027 (quebec.ca)

**Racism:** Racism corresponds to the "set of ideas, attitudes and actions whose purpose is to make ethnocultural and national groups feel inferior socially, economically, culturally and politically, thereby preventing them from benefitting fully from the advantages to which all citizens are entitled." Racist discourse is usually based on real or presumed physical and cultural differences."

# LINK - (MIDI, 2015)

**Discrimination:** "Every person has a right to full and equal recognition and exercise of his human rights and freedoms, without distinction, exclusion or preference based on race, colour, sex, gender identity or expression, pregnancy, sexual orientation, civil status, age except as provided by law, religion, political convictions, language, ethnic or national origin, social condition, a handicap or the use of any means to palliate a handicap. Discrimination exists where such a distinction, exclusion or preference has the effect of nullifying or impairing such right."

# LINK - (Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms, section 10).

# **Types of Bullying:**

This may include but not limited to:

- 1. Verbal bullying including derogatory comments and name calling;
- 2. Bullying through social exclusion or isolation;
- 3. Physical bullying such as hitting, kicking, shoving, and spitting;
- 4. Bullying through lies and false rumours;
- 5. Having money or other things personal property/belongings/possessions taken or damaged by students who bully;
- 6. Being threatened or being forced to do things by students who bully;
- 7. Racial bullying;
- 8. Identity bullying;
- 9. Sexual bullying, harassment, unwanted advances, inappropriate touching; and
- 10. Cyber-bullying (bullying behavior via cell-phone, Internet, etc...).

## **Buses and Bus Behaviour**

Transportation Services are a privilege and not a right. The safety of the students on the school buses is the primary concern of the bus drivers and the school. The behaviour of the children on the school bus is consistent with the beahviour expectations while at school. Students must adhere to the following requirements in the interest of safety for all passengers. Failure to do so may lead to the suspension or removal of riding privileges.

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<sup>\*\*</sup>Please see the Anti-Violence/Anti-Bullying Plan for further information\*\*

- Remain in their seat at all times
- Follow the driver's instructions
- Use polite language
- Avoid distracting the driver by creating unnecessary noise or uncooperative behaviour
- Refrain from eating and drinking on the bus
- Demonstrate acceptable behaviour which respects the rights of other passengers and the driver
- Ensure that all personal belongings fit within their backpack (lunch bag may be carried separately)

The driver is at all times in complete charge of the bus and passengers. If any of the above outlined code of conduct rules are violated, the driver will report the problems to the Principal.

If a parent/guardian has an issue with an incident that has happened on the bus or with the driver, they are to speak directly to the administration, or the administrations designate.

#### **Summary and Conclusions**

The Code of Conduct is required to ensure that students, parents/guardians and staff all understand the standards we expect at Lord Aylmer Elementary School. The discipline policy, however, must be flexible enough so that we are positioned to be fair and sensible in our relationships with students and others. It is not our intent to have rules for everything. Appropriate consequences are needed for inappropriate behaviour. We all want our students to become all that they are capable of becoming: to be successful and happy in their lives, to make correct and acceptable choices, and to live productive and fulfilling lives.

We sincerely hope that these words help to communicate and to clarify our Code of Conduct.

Every student has a role in helping to make our school a safe and happy place for all. Please discuss the expectations outlined in the Code of Conduct with your child(ren).

Thank you,

**Lord Aylmer Elementary Staff** 



