

Bentley School Code of Conduct

Fostering a Welcoming, Caring, Respectful, and Safe Learning Environment

Mission

Our mission is to provide a welcoming, inclusive learning environment where every student, from Pre-K to Grade 12, is known, valued, and supported. We are a student-centered team that works together to support the social and emotional wellbeing of every student. We value strong, meaningful connections with our students and our community.

Vision

We envision our school as the heart of our community, a vibrant hub where students, families and staff work in partnership to inspire a lifelong love for learning, build resilience, and prepare every student to thrive in an ever-changing world. Together, we grow, learn and succeed.

Purpose

The Bentley School Code of Conduct is developed in alignment with the *Education Act* (Section 33), Wolf Creek Public Schools policy, and Alberta Education's expectations for safe and caring schools. It provides clear expectations for behavior, supports positive mental health, and ensures that all members of our school community — students, staff, and parents — feel valued, respected, and safe.

This Code of Conduct is reviewed annually with staff, students, and parents/guardians to ensure that it reflects our shared values and community needs.

Our Shared Values

At Bentley School, we commit to a learning environment where:

- **Healthy and respectful relationships** are fostered.

- **Students know that adults care** for them both as individuals and as members of the school community.
 - **Positive mental health** is promoted through encouragement, connection, and balance.
 - **Rights and responsibilities** are understood, respected, and upheld.
 - **Diversity is celebrated** and understood as a strength of our school community.
 - **Collaboration, trust, and caring** guide our work with one another.
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Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students have the right to:

- Learn in a safe, welcoming, and caring environment.
- Be treated with dignity and respect.
- Be supported in developing to their full potential academically, socially, and emotionally.
- Express themselves respectfully and contribute to the school community.

Students have the responsibility to:

- Demonstrate respect for themselves, others, and school property.
 - Contribute to a positive, inclusive learning environment.
 - Follow school and classroom expectations consistently.
 - Accept responsibility for their actions and choices.
 - Seek help when they or others are struggling.
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Expectations for Behavior

Our school community models positive social-emotional skills in all interactions. Expectations are:

1. Respectful Communication

- Use language that is kind, inclusive, and appropriate.
- Resolve conflicts peacefully and seek help when needed.

2. Positive Relationships

- Treat all peers and adults with dignity and fairness.
- Support others and speak out against bullying, discrimination, or harassment.

3. Commitment to Learning

- Be prepared and engaged in class.
- Use technology and resources responsibly to support learning.

4. Safe and Healthy Choices

- Follow school routines and safety guidelines.
- Care for school property and the property of others.
- Respect personal boundaries and maintain a safe physical environment.

Dress Code

Bentley School encourages individuality and self-expression while ensuring clothing supports a respectful, distraction-free, and safe learning environment.

- Clothing must cover midriff, and private body parts.
- Undergarments, including bras and underwear, must be fully covered by outer clothing at all times. Clothing that exposes undergarments, whether intentionally or unintentionally, is not permitted.

- Skirts and shorts must extend beyond the student's extended hand when arms are at their side.
 - Spandex gym shorts are permitted as long as they adhere to the appropriate short length criteria.
 - Excessive skin exposure based on respectful attire will not be permitted.
 - Clothing with offensive, discriminatory, or inappropriate language/images is not permitted.
 - Hats are permitted in class if deemed appropriate by the teacher.
 - For safety reasons:
 - Shoes must be worn at all times (fire code).
 - Hoods must be removed indoors (for safety and community connection).
 - Gym class requires proper footwear and clothing suitable for activity.
 - Students who do not meet dress expectations will be provided with an opportunity to change, cover up, or borrow school-provided clothing.
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Technology and Cell Phones

Technology is an important learning tool when used responsibly.

- Cell phones and personal devices are not to be used during instructional time unless permitted by the teacher for learning purposes.
- Earbuds/headphones and smartwatches must be turned off or put away during class unless approved by the teacher.
- Inappropriate use of technology (distraction, disrespectful communication, recording without permission) will result in consequences.

Consequences for Misuse:

1. First Infraction: Reminder and redirection; device may be held by the teacher until end of class/day.

2. Second Infraction: Device turned into the office, parents/guardians notified.
3. Subsequent Infractions: Device held at the office; parents/guardians must pick it up.

Supports and Consequences

When students engage in unacceptable behavior, consequences will:

- Be **age-appropriate and considerate of maturity and individual circumstances**.
- Focus on **restoring relationships** and **repairing harm** rather than punishment alone.
- Involve **collaboration with students, staff, and families**.

Examples of supports may include:

- Restorative conversations or mediation.
- Counseling or access to mental health resources.
- Opportunities to make amends through service or positive contribution.
- Additional academic or behavioral support.

Consequences may include:

- Loss of privileges (e.g., technology, extracurricular participation).
- Temporary removal from class.
- Parental meetings and planning supports.
- In cases of repeated or severe behavior, suspension or referral to WCPS district supports.

School Safety

- Bentley School uses **video surveillance** (in line with WCPS Admin Procedure 181 and 182) for the safety and security of all.
 - Threats or high-risk behaviors will be addressed using WCPS's **Threat and Risk Assessment protocols** (AP 167).
 - All students and staff contribute to maintaining a safe physical and emotional environment.
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Ongoing Review and Voice

This Code of Conduct will be:

- **Reviewed annually** by staff, students, and parents.
- **Shared openly** with all families and posted on the school website.
- **Adapted as needed** to reflect the evolving needs of our school community.