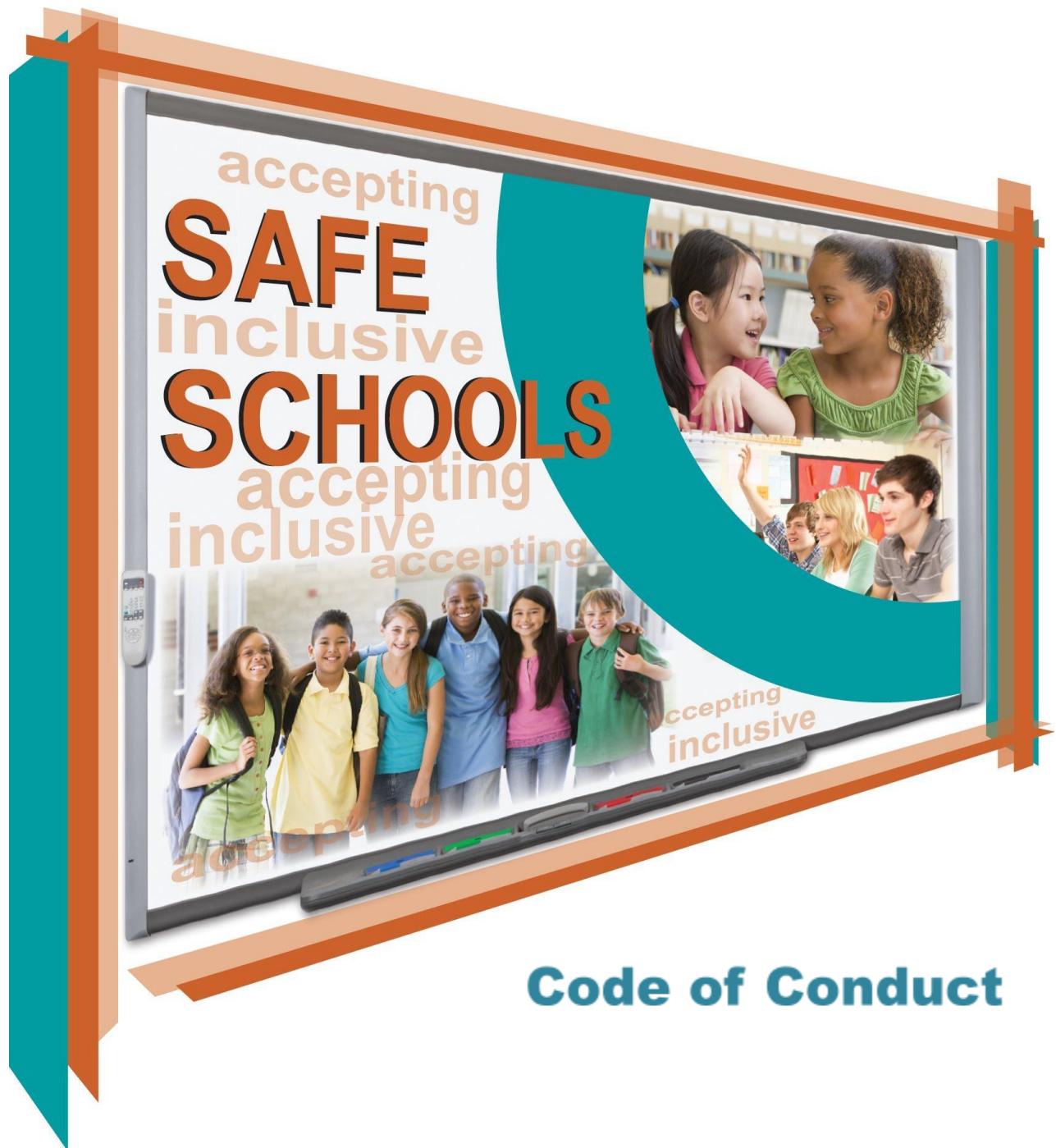


St. Anne Catholic School

2025-2026



Code of Conduct

I. Purpose

St. Anne Catholic School recognizes that all people are created in the image and likeness of God, and as such, all have the right to be treated with dignity, respect and fairness. To this end, the school promotes a positive learning environment in which all members of the school community feel safe, included, and accepted.

The school maintains that a whole-school approach, which involves all members of the school community, is important in supporting efforts to ensure positive behaviours and interactions in schools.

In keeping with provincial policy and the Ottawa Catholic School Board Code of Conduct, the purposes of our school Code of Conduct are as follows:

- To ensure all members of the school community, especially people in positions of authority, are treated with respect and dignity;
- To promote responsible citizenship by encouraging appropriate participation in the civic life of the school community;
- To maintain an environment where conflict and difference can be addressed in a manner characterized by respect and civility;
- To encourage the use of non-violent means to resolve conflict;
- To promote the safety of people in the schools;
- To discourage the use of alcohol and illegal drugs; and
- To prevent bullying in schools.

II. Standards of Behaviour

The code of conduct sets clear standards of behaviour that apply to our students as well as all individuals involved in our school community (parents/guardians, teachers and other staff members, volunteers, visitors, and third-party group members). These standards apply whether students are on school property, on school buses, at school-related events or activities, or in other circumstances that could have an impact on the school climate.

All members of the school community must:

- Respect and comply with all applicable federal, provincial, and municipal laws;
- Demonstrate honesty and integrity;
- Respect differences in people, their ideas, and their opinions;

- Treat one another with dignity and respect at all times, and especially when there is disagreement;
- Respect and treat others fairly, regardless of, for example, race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, or disability;
- Respect the rights of others;
- Show proper care and regard for school property and the property of others;
- Take appropriate measures to help those in need;
- Seek assistance from a member of the school staff, if necessary, to resolve conflict peacefully;
- Respect all members of the school community, especially persons in positions of authority;
- Respect the need of others to work in an environment that is conducive to learning and teaching; and
- Not swear at a teacher or at another person in a position of authority.

All members of the school community must not:

- Engage in bullying behaviours;
- Commit sexual assault;
- Traffic weapons or illegal drugs;
- Give alcohol to a minor;
- Commit robbery;
- Be in possession of any weapon, including firearms;
- Use any object to threaten or intimidate another person;
- Cause injury to any person with an object;
- Be in possession of, or be under the influence of, or provide others with alcohol or illegal drugs;
- Inflict or encourage others to inflict bodily harm on another person;
- Engage in hate propaganda and other forms of behaviour motivated by hate or bias; and
- Commit an act of vandalism that causes extensive damage to school property or to property located on the premises of the school.

Student Dress Code

Students are expected to dress in a manner that is appropriate for a business-like environment.

Clothing should be respectful, culturally sensitive and in keeping with the Catholic value of promoting a safe, caring and inclusive school community.

In order to maintain a professional environment at the school, **short-shorts, yoga/booty/bike shorts**, torn pants, cut-offs, pajamas, slippers, muscle shirts, **tank/crop-tops** and T-shirts with vulgar or suggestive or inappropriate language or drug/alcohol messages **are not permitted**.

Shorts and skirts are suggested to be walking short length just above the knee, but **no shorter than knuckle length** with arms extended to the students side.

No midriff-revealing, backless or off the shoulder tops are to be worn.

III. Roles and Responsibilities

The school code of conduct acknowledges that responsible citizenship involves appropriate participation in the life of the school community. Active and engaged students are aware of their rights, but more importantly, they accept responsibility for protecting their rights and the rights of others.

a) Principals

Under the direction of the school board, the principal takes a leadership role in the daily operation of a school. He/She provides this leadership by:

- demonstrating care for the school community and a commitment to academic excellence in a safe teaching and learning environment;
- holding everyone under his/her authority accountable for his or her behaviour and actions;
- empowering students to be positive leaders in their school and community;
- communicating regularly and meaningfully with all members of the school community.

b) Teachers and Other School Staff Members

Under the leadership of their principal, teachers and other school staff members maintain order in the school and are expected to hold everyone to the highest standard of respectful and responsible behaviour. As role models, teachers and school staff uphold these high standards when they:

- help students work to their full potential and develop their sense of self-worth;
- empower students to be positive leaders in their classroom, school, and community;
- communicate regularly and meaningfully with parents;
- maintain consistent standards of behaviour for all students;
- demonstrate respect for all students, staff, parents, volunteers, and the members of the school community;
- prepare students for the full responsibilities of citizenship.

c) *Community Partners & Police*

Community agencies and partners are valued resources that St. Anne uses to assist in the delivery of bullying and harassment prevention or intervention programs. The partnerships respect all applicable collective agreements and are consistent with the board practice on the use of outside organizations and volunteers.

The police play an essential role in making our schools and communities safe. The police investigate incidents in accordance with the protocol developed with the local boards. This protocol is based on a provincial model that was revised in 2011 by the Ministry of the Community Safety and Correctional Services and the Ministry of Education.

IV. Communication Plan

The school uses a variety of means to ensure that students and the community are aware of the school code of conduct.

- The code of conduct is posted on the school's website.
- The school's code of conduct is highlighted in the student agenda.
- The school will, periodically, provide reminders of aspects of its code of conduct in newsletters which are available in hard copy or electronically.

V. Procedures and Timelines For Review

- The principal will conduct a review of the school's code of conduct at least once every 3 years.
- In reviewing the school's code of conduct, the principal will consult with the school council.