

Standard Number:	4006	Effective Date:	May 1, 2022
Standard Title:	Student Code of Conduct	Last Updated:	Mar 22, 2022
Standard Category:	Registrar's Office	Next Review Date:	March, 2023

Purpose

Ridge Meadows College (RMC) is a learning institution committed to providing a safe environment for its students, staff and members of the general public. Based on a foundation of mutual respect, consideration, fairness, empathy and social and emotional development, the college requires students to behave in a manner that befits these tenants. In a post-secondary environment, the respect and dignity of persons must be balanced with the need to express their ideas and academic freedom.

The purposes of RMC's Code of Conduct are:

1. To encourage the development of socially responsible behaviour resulting in a positive reputation for students and community.
2. To foster a safe, respectful and welcoming learning environment for all students, staff and members of the public.
3. To clearly communicate behavioural expectations to students.
4. To demonstrate reasonable steps and preventative actions that may be required when College values are not upheld.

The Code of Conduct applies to all students, at any college-related activity at any location, or any circumstance/activity that will have an impact on the college environment.

Statement

Ridge Meadow College's Code of Conduct has been created to maintain a safe, caring and orderly learning environment and is based off the procedures of SD42.

Respect for Each Other

Statement of Purpose

- To foster a healthy community where all members treat each other with courtesy and respect.
- To foster a community which is kind, friendly, and inclusive.
- To work together in developing a sense of community-mindedness and accountability.

- To promote and maintain an environment where students and staff are safe to learn and achieve success.
- To ensure that all students regardless of their sex, race, religion, culture, sexual orientation and gender identity or expression, enjoy a safe, inclusive and welcoming learning environment.
- To ensure that students and staff have the right to a learning environment free from bullying, harassment, intimidation and dishonesty. Inappropriate prejudicial behavior, speech or attire towards a group or individual is unacceptable.
- To provide a safe environment to politely voice opinions without the fear or intimidation or unreasonable use of authority.

Expectations

- All members of the student community will endeavour to be honest with one another.
- Students and staff must be treated with respect and courtesy through display of appropriate behaviour and speech.
- Members of the college community must display acceptance for all people, including, but not exclusive of, ethnicity, appearance, abilities and religion.

Unacceptable Conduct

- Slanderous comments, sexual suggestions, excessive profanity (swearing), and discriminatory terms.
- Name-calling, slurs, offensive slang remarks.
- Disrespectful or threatening language or behaviour (such as racist, discriminatory, or homophobic comments) including when conducted via social networking, text message or other online platform.
- On-going physical, mental or psychological harassment of any student or staff member.
- Participating in fighting in any way including as fighter, spectator, or promoter.
- Bullying, intimidation (verbal, physical, mental etc.), harassment and possession or use of weapons are all forms of violence. These actions, whether uttered as threats or acted upon, will not be tolerated.

Respect for the Learning Environment

Statement of Purpose

- To promote a caring and success-orientated environment.
- In general, a student needs to be actively involved in the task at hand.
- To ensure each student has access to a quiet, orderly, clean, well-equipped learning space.

- To promote a learning environment where each learner can achieve the highest level possible. This can only be accomplished when students are safe and have a clear understanding of learning expectations, assessment criteria and how to achieve high standards.

Our Expectations

- To respect the rights of others to work and learn, free of distractions
- To dress appropriately (see Dress Code)
- To complete assignments in a timely manner in order to demonstrate understanding of learning outcomes

Unacceptable Conduct

- Students under the influence or in possession of illegal drugs or alcohol at school or at college events will be disciplined. This may include suspension or expulsion (for more information see 'Drugs/Alcohol' section of the Code of Conduct)

Respect of Facilities and Equipment

Statement of Purpose

- To promote a safe environment through responsible use of facilities, equipment, and vehicles
- To ensure safety regulations are followed for the safety of all students and staff
- To care for the college and its property including textbooks, furniture, and equipment

Our Expectations

- All members of our community are expected to keep the college facilities and grounds neat and tidy. Individuals are expected to clean up after themselves
- Rollerblades, bikes, and skateboards are not permitted within college. Bikes should be stored properly.

Unacceptable Conduct

- Intentional destruction of property, such as graffiti, vandalism, theft of personal and/or college property.
- Careless use of other students' or college materials.
- Littering on or near the grounds, and/or irresponsible behaviour on campus.

Dress Code

Statement of Purpose

The college recognizes that decisions about dress reflect individual expression of identity, socio-cultural norms, and that they are personal.

Students may attend college and college-related functions in clothes of their choice provided that their choices:

- Conform with established health and safety requirements for the intended activity;
- Do not represent or promote alcohol or drugs;
- Use respectful language;
- Do not depict or promote violence, racism, sexism or discrimination; and
- Are not intimidating to others.

Ultimately, the college administration has the responsibility to apply the dress guidelines when necessary. If any person dresses in an inappropriate manner, the student will be advised personally and given an opportunity to meet college guidelines.

Drugs and Alcohol

Statement of Purpose

- Students will recognize that using drugs and/or alcohol will have a negative effect on their education.
- Students will recognize that the presence of drugs and/or alcohol in the building has a negative impact on college culture and on student learning.

Our Expectations

- Students will not bring drugs or drug paraphernalia or alcohol to campus.
- Students will not be under the influence of drugs or alcohol while on campus.
- Students will not wear clothing that promotes drugs or alcohol.

Unacceptable Conduct

- Being under the influence of any type of illegal drug or alcohol while involved in any college activity.
- Being present while drugs and/or alcohol are used during the course of learning activities.
- Involvement in any type of drug or alcohol trafficking.

Responses to Misconduct

Any member of the Ridge Meadows College community may make an allegation or complaint against any student(s) at the college, whether current or former, for misconduct.

Allegations of misconduct are determined using 4006 – Student Code of Conduct Rules as a guideline.

When responding to breaches in the Code of Conduct, college officials may inform school district officials, the police or other agencies, when the whole community needs to be reassured that a serious situation is being addressed.

Related Standards

- 2001 – Academic Integrity
- 5001 – Conflict Resolution
- 5002 – Acceptable Use of Information Technology Resources

Related Rules

- 4006 – Student Code of Conduct Rules