



FAMILY COMMITMENT STATEMENT

Rationale

At our Division, we believe that education is a partnership between students, parents or guardians, teachers, and the community. A welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe environment is the foundation for learning and personal growth. This Family Commitment Statement outlines the responsibilities for students and parents in fostering a positive school experience where everyone can succeed.

During our community consultation process in the 2023/2024 school year, our stakeholders overwhelmingly told us that as a community we revisit accountability for school divisions and their employees, but also students and families needed to be part of this accountability process. We reflected this sentiment in the rewriting of our Vision, Mission and Core Values. We now kindly ask students, parents and guardians to join us in this partnership.

The *Education Act* (Sections 31 and 32) outlines what student and parent responsibilities are. Our Family Commitment Statement is based on this legislation.

Family Commitments

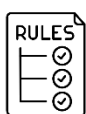
Families play a vital role in a student's success. Both students and parents share responsibilities that contribute to a positive learning environment. By committing, as a family, to these principles, we strengthen the partnership between home and school. These commitments include:



- **Encouraging your child to attend school regularly:** We know the importance of attendance. You have to be present to learn.



- **Contributing to the School Community:** Encourage your child to positively contribute to their school community. This could include being a reading buddy or any other helpful role that your child can think of!



- **Following School Rules:** Support school rules and teachers when speaking with your children. However, feel free to speak about the rules to your child's Teacher and/or your School Administrator.



- **Respecting Others:** Children learn social behaviour. If we treat our peers aggressively, so will our children. If we show kindness and understanding, they will, too!



- **Preventing Bullying:** Actively work to prevent, report and not tolerate bullying, both in-person and online. Most bullies have learned bullying outside of school.



- **Cooperating with Staff:** Work with school staff to support your child's learning and any additional services they may need. Understand we are trying to help.

September 2024

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Accountability and Actions for Non-Compliance

Our Division believes in mutual accountability between families and the school community to foster a positive learning environment. While we understand that challenges may arise, it is essential that all families adhere to the commitments outlined in this statement to ensure the success and well-being of every student.

In cases where a family is not meeting the commitments, the following steps will be taken to address the situation:

1. Designated Contact Person

If a family is found to be consistently non-compliant with their commitments, a single point of contact will be assigned within the school or Division. All further communication between the family and the Division regarding these concerns must go through this designated individual. This step is taken to ensure a structured and consistent approach in resolving the issues and to provide clarity for both the family and school staff.



2. Prescribed Methods of Communication

To ensure that communication remains focused and productive, the Division will prescribe specific methods of communication that the family must use when interacting with the designated contact person.

Failure to adhere to these communication protocols may result in further action.



3. Escalation of Concerns

If non-compliance continues after the above steps have been implemented, the matter may be escalated.

4. Rebuilding the Partnership

The Division's primary goal is to restore a positive and collaborative relationship between families and the Division. As part of this process, a resolution plan may be developed in partnership with the family to support their adherence to the Family Commitments and ensure the student's continued success.



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