

FLIPPER INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

STUDENTS' CODE OF CONDUCT: REWARDS AND CONSEQUENCES

**JANUARY, 2025
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA**

1. Introduction

The students' code of conduct serves as a framework that ensures the creation of a safe, respectful and conducive learning environment. It outlines expected behavior, the rewards for positive conduct, and the consequences for infractions. By promoting consistency in handling student behavior, the code helps students understand the importance of responsibility, self-discipline, and respect for others. This document can be used as a guideline to foster a positive atmosphere that enhances academic and social development within the school community. Finally, the ultimate goal of students' code of conduct is to guide students towards personal development, self-discipline, and making positive contributions to the school community.

2. Objectives

The objectives of the students' code of conduct are:

- To promote a positive learning environment by encouraging respectful and responsible behavior.
- To establish clear guidelines for behavior expectations and consequences for violations.
- To reinforce the role of positive reinforcement in shaping student behavior.
- To ensure a fair and consistent approach in addressing behavioral issues.
- To engage parents/guardians in addressing behavioral concerns and supporting positive student development.

3. Core Principles

The foundation of the students' code of conduct is built on the following core principles.

1. **Respect:** Every individual in the school is entitled to a safe and respectful environment. All students must respect their peers, teachers, admin staffs and guests with kindness and consideration. This also includes respecting diverse backgrounds, opinions, and beliefs.
2. **Integrity:** Uphold honesty in all academic pursuits. Cheating, plagiarism, and any form of dishonesty are strictly prohibited.
3. **Responsibility:** Students are responsible for their actions, and the code encourages them to take ownership of their behavior. This includes attending classes regularly, completing assignments on time, and being prepared for lessons.

4. Inclusivity: Foster an environment where everyone feels welcome and valued. Engage in activities that promote collaboration and understanding among peers.
5. Safety: Prioritize the physical and emotional safety of yourself and others. Bullying, harassment, or any form of violence will not be tolerated.
6. Communication: Practice open and respectful communication. Listen actively and express your thoughts in a constructive manner.
7. Participation: Engage actively in the learning process. Contribute positively to class discussions, group work, and school activities.
8. Fairness and Consistency: Disciplinary measures will be administered fairly and consistently to all students.
9. Collaboration: The code emphasizes the collaboration between students, school staffs, and parents in maintaining positive behavior and addressing misconduct.

School Code of Conduct

1. Verbal Warning

Behavior: Minor disruptions (talking out of turn, distracting others)

- Talking loudly during class
- Interrupting others
- Making unnecessary noises (e.g., tapping or clicking pens)
- Engaging in side conversations or gossiping
- Being off-task (e.g., looking at distractions)
- Talking while the teacher or others are speaking
- Distracting peers from their work or class discussions
- Not raising hand or waiting for permission to speak

Consequence: A reminder or caution for inappropriate behavior. The student is given a chance to correct their actions. If this is consistently happened it goes to the second step.

2. Reflection Time

Behavior: Disrespectful behavior or failure to follow directions

- Speaking rudely to peers or the teacher
- Refusing to follow instructions
- Ignoring classroom rules or routines
- Engaging in disruptive behavior (e.g., talking back or arguing)
- Using disrespectful body language (e.g., rolling eyes, sighing)
- Disrespecting the ideas and/or feelings of others
- Avoiding responsibility for actions
- Not engaging in tasks when expected
- Failing to complete classwork, homework, or group assignments on time

Consequence: The student is asked to reflect on their actions in a quiet setting to understand how their behavior affects others. If this is consistently happened it goes to the second step.

3. Loss of Privileges

Behavior: Inappropriate behavior during class activities or breaking rules

- Not following classroom procedures (e.g., taking too long to start class)
- Using classroom materials incorrectly or damaging them
- Refusing to participate in class activities (e.g., group work)
- Misusing technology for non-educational purposes (e.g., gaming or texting during ICT class)
- Distracting others during work or study time

Consequence: The student loses certain privileges (e.g., recess, class parties, field trips) as a consequence of their actions. If this is consistently happened it goes to the second step.

4. Parental Involvement

Behavior: Repeated disruption or failure to follow class expectations

- Continual disrespect toward peers or authority figures
- Consistently failing to turn in assignments on time
- Chronic tardiness
- Lack of effort in academic tasks leading to poor grades
- Engaging in disruptive behavior repeatedly despite previous warnings
- Habitually ignoring instructions or assignments

Consequence: A phone call, email, or written communication is made to inform parents about the student's behavior and seek collaboration for improvement. If this is consistently happened it goes to the second step.

5. Detention

Behavior: Repeated tardiness, not following school rules, or more serious disruptions

- Arriving late to class or school repeatedly
- Skipping classes without permission
- Engaging in verbal altercations or arguments
- Consistently breaking classroom rules after prior warnings
- Deliberately distracting others or refusing to stop when asked

- Leaving class or school grounds without permission
- Engaging in disruptive behaviors such as verbal bullying

Consequence: The student is required to stay after school (or during lunch/break) to complete assignments or reflect on their behavior.

6. Suspension

Behavior: Fighting, bullying, repeated disrespectful behavior, or serious rule violations

- Cheating on assignments or exams
- Engaging in physical fights or assaulting others
- Repeated bullying or harassment
- Accidental damage to school property
- Severe defiance or disrespect toward staff (e.g., refusing instructions)
- Threatening others, either verbally or physically
- Engaging in dangerous behaviors that put others at risk
- Violating the rights of other students (e.g., stealing personal belongings)

Consequence: The student is temporarily removed from school (in-school or out-of-school). A final warning is given. Community service may also be assigned depending on the severity of the case.

7. Expulsion

Behavior: Violent acts, severe bullying, possession of drugs or weapons, or repeated, serious infractions

- Theft or stealing school property or another student's belongings
- Engaging in illegal acts (e.g., gambling)
- Possession or use of drugs, alcohol, or smoking on school premises
- Engaging in activities that disrupt the educational environment
- Vandalizing, destroying school property
- Insulting, harassing, or physically threatening school staff
- Possession of dangerous sharp objects, weapons, or items that could cause harm
- Engaging in sexual misconduct or violations of female student's rights
- Engaging in political or religious activities within the school

- Physical violence or group violence
- Engaging in illegal group activities
- Consistently arriving late for school or failing to adhere to the school uniform policy after previous communication

Consequence: The student is permanently removed from the school due to extremely serious or repeated violations of school policy.

Additional Notes:

- Progressive Discipline: If there is no improvement after receiving a verbal warning, further disciplinary measures may be considered, including expulsion.
- Electronics Policy: Electronics brought to class will not be returned until the end of the year.
- Record Keeping: Any incident will be recorded, and both students and parents will be required to sign acknowledgment of the issue and the corresponding consequences.

Conclusion:

By adhering to this Code of Conduct, students help maintain a respectful, safe, and effective learning environment for all. This promotes growth, responsibility, and academic success. All students are expected to behave in a manner that reflects the school's values and fosters mutual respect among peers, staff, and the entire school community.