



**IMMANUEL CHRISTIAN
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
HANDBOOK
2025-2026**

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INTRODUCTION

Immanuel Christian Elementary School is an alternative school offering a faith-based program within the Lethbridge School Division. Our staff includes a diverse team of individuals committed to providing Christian education at ICES.

School Administration Team:

Principal - Mrs. Barbi Wall

Vice-Principal & Learning Support Teacher – Mrs. Michelle Loveridge

Teaching Staff:

Kindergarten – Mrs. Kathryn Ferrie & Mrs. Dana Heshka

Grade One – Mrs. Carolyn Kruisselbrink

Grade Two – Miss Erinn McRae & Mr. Julian Hazell

Grade Three – Mrs. Dana Heshka, Mrs. Jackie Postman & Mrs. Cheryl Winkelaar

Grade Four – Mr. Mike Greeno & Mrs. Nadyne Alaric

Grade Five – Mr. Alan Riewe & Mrs. Leslee Shenton

Grade Four & Five French – Mrs. Laura Peters

Support Staff:

Administrative Assistant – Mrs. Laura Hit

Learning Commons Facilitator – Mrs. Nellie Konynenbelt

Student Support Worker - Mrs. Sandra Trempler

FSLC – Mrs. Wendy Ojo

Educational Assistants:

Ms. Colette Bouwsema, Mr. Jason Hoard, Mrs. Lynda Jordan, Mrs. Lorinda Molenaar, Mrs. Tiffany Anderson

OFFICE HOURS & BUILDING ACCESS

The ICES front office hours are Monday – Friday 8:00 – 3:30. Messaging service is available if the phone is unanswered and we will respond to your message promptly. The building remains secure throughout the school day and may be accessed at the front doors by using the buzzer to the right of the front doors.

MISSION

Our mission is to provide a Christian environment in which God calls all His children to develop and use their gifts for joyful service in His Kingdom.

ICES DEEP HOPE

Equipping Learners, Nurturing Faith, Flourishing in Community

As a Christian school, we have deep hopes for our school community. Each staff member at ICES has developed individual *Deep Hopes* pertaining to their work within the school. Collectively, we also have an ICES *Deep Hope*. This *Deep Hope* framework

is based on the *Head, Heart, Hands* model. The head represents learning, the heart pertains to growing, and the hands depict serving.

SCHOOL VISION

As a community of Christian parents and teachers, we envision our schools as places where:

- Christ is glorified in everything we say and do with everyone contributing in a positive manner to the school
- Quality teaching and learning takes place in an environment where students are accepted, loved, and respected
- Christian discipleship and discipline are carried out in love
- Students work to achieve their God-given potential in all aspects of their development and strive to build God-honoring friendships and relationships
- Everyone can develop and talk about their personal relationship with God
- Accountability to God and each other is stressed
- Academic growth is valued and supported
- A strong sense of Christian community exists between home, school, and church
- Enthusiasm and excitement for learning and teaching is modeled by all
- Students may learn to know, love, and serve God
- Our individuality is known by Christ and celebrated by each other

CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

The Christian home, the Christian church, and the Christian school all provide educational services. All three must cooperate closely in pursuing a common goal which is to strive toward the students' achieving their God-given potential in all aspects of their development as well as helping them live a life of obedience and biblical wisdom. In keeping with the mission statements, we as a school community must work together to instill in every student a desire to know, love and serve God in all areas of life.

As members of the Body of Christ, this community works together, as one, to achieve the well-rounded development of its children. These objectives are realized by recognizing the distinct character and task of each institution. The HOME supports the spiritual direction of the church and provides an environment of love and trust in which the students can mature and achieve emotional security. The CHURCH functions to build up the students' lives of faith by way of worship and the teaching of the God's Word. The SCHOOL supplies educational instruction based on a Christian worldview. A well-designed curriculum prepares our children to better understand the world from a Christ-centered perspective.

The Christian home, the Christian church, and the Christian school together make up the larger Christian community which together can serve as a bright light shining forth in a dark world (Matthew 5:14-16).

CURRICULUM

As a school offering an alternative program within our school division, ICES follows the Alberta Education's *Programs of Study* and uses the *Teaching for Transformation (TfT)* framework to embed Biblical themes in all subjects. Additionally, Bible classes are embedded into our weekly schedule. Through these avenues, students are provided with opportunities to discover, develop, and use their God-given gifts, talents, and abilities for joyful service in His Kingdom. TfT Through-lines include:

God Worshipping – We offer thanks and praise to God by the way we live

Idolatry Discerning – We are wise about what pulls our hearts away from God's story

Earth Keeping – We take care of and protect God's creation

Beauty Creating – We create beauty to praise God and enrich our world

Justice Seeking – We notice and respond to situations that are not right or fair

Creation Enjoying – We recognize and enjoy God's brilliant creation

Servant Working – We serve others as Christ served us

Community Building – We build loving communities in our classroom, city, and world

Image Reflecting – We learn to see God's image in others and in ourselves.

Order Discovering – We discover the amazing and complex designs in God's creation

SCHOOL THEME

The 2025/26 school year is The Fruits of the Spirit. This theme will be woven throughout our chapels as we dive deeper into learning about these Biblical truths. After each chapel, students meet with their multigrade chapel groups to work through various activities related to the chapel.

Theme Chapels

Monthly theme chapels are at 12:30 pm on our early dismissal days:

September 17

October 15

November 19

January 14

February 13 (Friday – Friendship Day)

March 18

April 22

May 13

June 10

CHAPELS

Our other chapels begin at 9:00 and are open to whoever would like to join us. Chapels with a grade in brackets indicates the grade that is leading the chapel.

The dates for our chapels are:

September 4 – Opening - Admin
October 10 – Thanksgiving – Grade 3
November 7 – Remembrance Day – Grade 2
November 24 – Advent – Hope
December 1 – Peace
December 8 – Joy
December 15 – Love
December 19 – Christmas – Grade 5
April 2 – Easter – Grade 1
May 11 – Christian Education Chapel @ ICSS
June 25 – Year-end – Admin & Grade 5

WEEKLY UPDATES

Each Monday, you will receive a Weekly Update pertaining to various pieces around ICES from Mrs. Wall. Similarly, classroom teachers send regular updates pertaining to learning and information pertaining to their programing. These are also posted on the school website under the *About* tab. Here is the link: [Weekly Updates](#)

OPEN HOUSE – August 28 – 1:00 – 3:00

Our Open House provides opportunity for families to come meet their children's teachers, bring school supplies and settle into their new classroom.

FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL PROCEDURES 2025 – 2026

Drop Off & Pick Up

Buses will be using 5 Avenue North, in front of the school, for dropping off and picking up our students. Please do not park in this area until after the buses have left. Parent drop-off and pick-up is designated along the east side of our school property along 21A Street North. Parking in the parking lot and along the fence on the west side of the school building is designated staff. Please be respectful of their need for parking.

Staggered Year Start for All Students - Kindergarten - Grade 5

For students in Grades 1 – 3, families with A – M surnames will begin on Tuesday, September 2 while families with N - Z surnames will begin on Wednesday, September 3. Our Grade 4 and 5 students will attend both days. For the younger grades, a staggered start provides opportunity for the teacher to connect with a smaller group of students and introduce classroom routines. For our older students, the familiarity the back-to-school routine makes a staggered entry unnecessary. Our Opening Chapel will be on Thursday, September 4 when everyone is at school!

MEDICAL INFO

Medications

The administration of any non-prescription medications (e.g. Tylenol) cannot legally be given by any staff member. If a parent wishes to have any staff member administer medications (prescription or non-prescription), we must have a letter of authorization from the parents.

Emergency Contacts

When a student is sick or in an emergency when we cannot reach parents, the school will reach out to the emergency contacts as designated on your registrations. Please confirm your child's current emergency contacts with our office staff.

DAILY SCHEDULE – Kindergarten to Grade 5

The school day officially starts at **8:38**. Students should be in their classrooms at 8:40 and a warning bell serves as a reminder at 8:35. The school entrance doors will be accessible from 8:25 – 8:45. Students arriving after 8:45 will need to enter the building through the front doors as the building is secured throughout the day. They may ring the buzzer to the right of the front entry doors to gain building access.

8:25	Doors Open
8:35	Warning Bell
8:38 - 9:20	Block One
9:20 - 10:00	Block Two
10:00 - 10:10	Recess
10:10 - 10:50	Block Three
10:50 - 11:30	Block Four
11:30- 12:00	Recess
12:00 - 12:20	Lunch
12:20 - 1:00	Block Five
1:00 - 1:40	Block Six
1:40 - 1:50	Recess
1:50 - 2:30	Block Seven
2:30 - 3:10	Block Eight
3:10	Dismissal

MORNING ARRIVAL

Buses will be using 5 Avenue North, in front of the school, for dropping off and picking up our students. Please do not park in this area until after the buses have left. Parent drop-off and pick-up is designated along the east side of our school property along 21A Street North. Parking in the parking lot and along the fence on the west side of the school building is designated staff. Please be respectful of their need for parking.

Upon arrival, all students enter a designated door and will use this door for all other times (recesses, end of the day). Students will come directly into the school and proceed to their classrooms. *Doors open at 8:25. Warning bell is at 8:35, classes begin at 8:38.*

AFTERNOON DISMISSAL

Afternoon dismissal is at 3:10. If your child does not use the bus for school transportation, please pick up your child along the 21A Street fence. You are welcome to meet your child outside their designated doors.

EARLY DISMISSALS

Early dismissals happen monthly to provide time for our Staff Meetings. On these days, students are dismissed at 2:00. This is also the practice on the Friday afternoon prior to Christmas holidays as well as the Thursday before the Easter break.

Early Dismissal dates are:

September 17

October 15

November 19

December 17 & 19

January 14

February 11

March 18

April 2 & 22

May 13

June 10 & 25

RECESSES

ICES has three recesses daily. All grade levels are outside at the same time under staff supervision. Please ensure children come dressed for the weather! Please see the Daily Schedule on page 7 for specific times.

HOT LUNCHES

The Hot Lunch program is offered twice per month through the Immanuel Christian Schools Ladies Auxiliary. Hot Lunch can be ordered 2 – 3 times per month throughout the school year through School Cash Online.

MILK PROGRAM

The ICES Milk Program is offered monthly, beginning in October. Students have the option of choosing white or chocolate milk. Families can place orders placed monthly through School Cash Online.

LEARNING COMMONS

Students attend the Learning Commons on a weekly basis with their class at a designated time to sign out books. Students have additional access to the Learning Commons during recesses or times approved by their teachers(s) to exchange or sign out new books. In addition to providing books, the Learning Commons is also a space where students will experience reading, read-alouds, and storytelling, as well as STEM and thematic activities that complement the curriculum.

Learning Commons Schedule:

Monday: 3A

Tuesday: 4A, 5A, 5B

Wednesday: Kindergarten A, 1, 4B

Thursday: Kindergarten B, 3B

Friday: 2A, 2B

GENERAL INFORMATION & PROCEDURES

Field Trips

Teachers are encouraged to supplement grade level curriculum with appropriate field trips. Information pertaining to field trips will be communicated to parents via Permission Click.

Dress

As Christians we are called to dress modestly and in a manner that honors God. Dress influences the attitudes of pupils towards themselves, others, and to their work. As there is a mode of dress suited to office or professional work, to the playing field or gymnasium, so there is also a mode of dress suited to a Christian school. Students may not wear clothing that displays vulgar messages, put-downs, promotes anti-Christian lifestyles, is overly revealing or carries a counter-Christian message. Students found wearing this type of clothing will be required to change into other attire and the parents will be notified. Likewise, shorts and dresses must be of an acceptable length and properly hemmed. Generally, a good rule of thumb is decent, modest and clean attire.

Shoes are to be worn at all times, especially in light of fire drill evacuations. Students are required to have a separate pair of indoor footwear for use inside the school to reduce the amount of mud and snow tracked through the halls. *In addition, all gym shoes must have a non-marking sole to prevent scuff marks on the gym floors.* Finally, students are not to wear coats or jackets in class unless there are extenuating circumstances. We depend upon the parents to supervise the appearance of their children, including weather appropriate clothing and footwear.

Attendance

It is the belief of the staff and board that there is a strong correlation between good, punctual attendance and success in school. Therefore, we expect parents and students to assume the responsibility for regular, punctual attendance. The school realizes that at times due to illness, medical appointments, or family reasons, students may have to miss some school. In the event of an absence, the parents are expected to enter the absence in Safe Arrival or by calling: 1-866-879-1041. Students are responsible to acquire class materials missed and make up assignments or tests as needed.

School Supplies

School Supplies lists are posted on the school website under the Home tab. Here is the link: [ICES School Supplies List](#). Although lunch kits and backpacks are not included on the list, these are required for each student as well.

Fire & Lock Down Drills

To ensure the safety of our students, fire drills, evacuations and lock downs are carried out during the school year. The importance of being prepared for such an emergency cannot be overstated. It is important that each child have a pair of indoor shoes that can be worn during the cold winter months. The fire department is knowledgeable of our building and is prepared to respond.

Reporting to Parents

As an extension of parent/teacher communication, reports of each child's progress will be issued by the teacher to the parents throughout the year (see school calendar for dates). These reports are intended to inform the parents of their child's progress and need for improvement if the case warrants. At the end of the first term, these reports will be followed by a conference between the teacher and parents.

Every aspect of communication between the teacher and parent is intended as a means for improving the quality of education for the student. To that end, parents may feel free to consult the teacher about their child's education at any time during the school year. For quality and effective education to take place, respectful communication lines between the home and school are necessary.

School Council

We invite all parents to attend the various School Council Town Hall meetings throughout the school year. The first meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 22 at 7:00. The new school council executive will be determined at the first meeting. Upcoming meeting information and dates will be included in the Weekly Update.

Liaisons from the Lethbridge School Trustees and Executive Council, as well as a representative from the Society for Christian Education in Southern Alberta's board will also serve with the school council. Liaisons names will be posted to the school website under the Parent/School Council tab when representatives have been confirmed.

Society for Christian Education in Southern Alberta (SCESA)

The Society for Christian Education in Southern Alberta oversees the ICES building, busing, and school fees. For inquiries around these pieces, please contact the Society Business Office at: 403-327-223 or [SCESA](#).

Executive Director: Monica Loewen
Business Office Manager: Jason Ferrie

Immanuel Christian Elementary School

2025 - 2026 School Year Calendar

	July							
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
Jul 1 Canada Day			1	2	3	4	5	
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
	27	28	29	30	31			
Sept 1 Labour Day – No School	September							
Sept 2 Classes begin A - M	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
Sept 3 Classes begin N - Z		1	2	3	4	5	6	
Gr 4 & 5 attend both Sept 2&3	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
Sept 13 Bits & Bytes	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
Sept 17 Early Dismissal (2:00)	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
Sept 30 National Day for TRC	28	29	30					
	November							
Nov 10 Division Wide PL Day	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
Nov 11 Remembrance Day							1	
Nov 19 Early Dismissal (2:00)	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Nov 21 Report Card One	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
Nov 24 Fall Society Meeting	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
	30							
	January							
Jan 5 Classes resume	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
Jan 19 Kindergarten					1	2	3	
Registration Opens	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Jan 14 Early Dismissal (2:00)	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
Jan 30 PL Day - No school	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
	March							
Mar 6 Report Card 2	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
Mar 12 Celebration of Learning	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Mar 13 PL/RCC - morning	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Mar 18 Early Dismissal (2:00)	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
Mar 26 Spring Program 6:30	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
Mar 28 Spring Bazaar	29	30	31					
	May							
May 11-15 Christian Education Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
May 13 Early Dismissal (2:00)						1	2	
May 18 No School	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
May 19 PL Day – No School	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
May 25 Spring Society Meeting	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
	31							
	August							
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
Aug 4 Heritage Day						1	2	
Aug 20 School office opens	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Aug 25 First day teachers	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
Aug 28 Open House 1:00 – 3:30	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
	31							
	October							
Oct 13 Thanksgiving	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
Oct 15 Early Dismissal (2:00)				1	2	3	4	
Oct 21 Conferences - evening	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
Oct 22 Conferences - morning	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
Oct 23-24 PCCE Convention - No School	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
	26	27	28	29	30	31		
	December							
Dec 4 Christmas Heritage Celebration - evening	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
Dec 17 Early Dismissal (2:00)		1	2	3	4	5	6	
Dec 19 Early Dismissal (2:00)	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
Dec 20 – Jan 5 - Break	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
	28	29	30	31				
	February							
Feb 11 Early Dismissal (2:00)	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
Feb 16 Family Day – No school	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Feb 17-20 No School	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Feb 19-20 ATA Convention	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
	April							
April 2 Early Dismissal (2:00)	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
April 3 Good Friday				1	2	3	4	
April 6 – 10 Easter Break	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
April 13 PL Day – No School	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
April 22 Early Dismissal (2:00)	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
	26	27	28	29	30			
	June							
Jun 10 Early Dismissal (2:00)	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
Jun 12 Sports Day		1	2	3	4	5	6	
Jun 25 Half day for students	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
Jun 26 Last day for teachers	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
	28	29	30					

Student Days: 180 Teacher Days: 196

 School year starts/ends for teachers	 Teachers' Convention
 School year starts/ends for students	 Professional Learning / Report Card Conferences – no school for students
 Holidays	 ICES Early Dismissal Days
 Society Events	 ICES Special Events

Student Technology Use Policy

ICES students are permitted to bring electronic devices for use on the bus, however any electronic device should not be used during school hours (at recess or in class). If a student is using an electronic device during school hours, the following policy will be acted upon:

1. First time – device will be taken from student and given to the principal. The student must then talk to the principal before getting the device back.
2. Second time – device will be taken from the student and given to the principal. The student will need to talk to the principal; however, the device will only be given to the student's parent/guardian.
3. Third time – device will be taken from the student and given to the principal. Student must talk with principal, and principal will then give the device to the parent/guardian after one month.
4. Fourth time - device will be taken from the student and given to the principal. Student must talk with principal, and principal will then contact parent/guardian and determine appropriate form of action.

Cell phones are often equipped with cameras. Students may not take pictures at school. To satisfy legal requirements around the protection of privacy, photography at school is allowed only for school purposes and with the permission of a staff member. Permitted photos can only be used with parental consent.

The school takes no responsibility for loss or damage to cell phones, iPads and any other electronic device. Parents send cell phones to school at their own risk.

Smart watches and other similar personal devices are only to be used as a watch.

Conduct

Positive Behaviour Support Plan

ICES operates on the educational philosophy that all our students have the right to learn. To this end, each student must be in a school climate that is safe, satisfying and productive, without disruptive behavior by any student infringing upon the rights of others. Home and school alike must share the responsibility for modeling and teaching appropriate acceptable behavior. By working together, we can ensure positive student conduct.

Purpose

In order to establish and maintain a welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe learning environment, this Student Code of Conduct establishes expectations and consequences for student behaviour while at school, at school sponsored activities, or while engaging in other non-school activities that have a direct influence on maintaining a welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe learning environment in the school.

The Student Code of Conduct is intended to establish and maintain an appropriate balance between individual and collective rights, freedoms, and responsibilities in the school community.

The Student Code of Conduct is also intended to help students learn how to address issues of dispute, develop empathy, and become good citizens within and outside the school community.

Definitions

Bullying: The *School Act* defines bullying as “repeated and hostile or demeaning behaviour by an individual in the school community where the behaviour is intended to cause harm, fear or distress to one or more other individuals in the school community, including psychological harm or harm to an individual’s reputation.” Bullying behaviour also includes behaviour that targets a student because of the actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression of parents or other family members.

Discrimination: The denial of individual rights and freedoms in a manner which contravenes the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* and/or the *Alberta Human Rights Act* (AHRA). Discrimination on the basis of race, religious beliefs, colour, gender, gender identity, gender expression, physical disability, mental disability, age, ancestry, place of origin, marital status, source of income, family status, creed, sexual orientation, and citizenship is prohibited.

Harassment: Any behaviour that in effect or intent disparages, humiliates, or harms another person or class of persons. It is behaviour that denies dignity and respect, and is demeaning and/or humiliating to another person or class of persons. Harassment may include, but is not limited to, references related to race, religious beliefs, colour, gender, gender identity, gender expression, physical disability, mental

disability, age, ancestry, place of origin, marital status, source of income, family status or sexual orientation. Sexual harassment is any unwelcome behavior that is sexual in nature. Such behaviour may directly or indirectly affect or threaten to affect in an adverse manner a student's well-being and/or learning environment. The behaviour does not need to be intended as harassing to be considered as personal harassment. It is sufficient that one knows, or ought reasonably to know, that his/her behaviour is offensive and unwelcome. Harassment is not a relationship of mutual consent. It is any action including, but not limited to, verbal, physical, written and cyber messaging that is unwelcome or intimidating and denies individual dignity and respect.

Suspension: A suspension is defined as a temporary prohibition, instituted by a principal or a teacher under section 24 of the School Act, of a student from attending a class, course, school activity, school, or from riding on school authorized transit for a period of 5 school days or less. Refer to Lethbridge School Division policy 502.3 *Suspensions and Expulsions*.

Expulsion: An expulsion is defined as a prohibition, instituted by the Board in accordance with section 25 of the School Act, of a student from a class, course, educational program, school, school activity or from riding school authorized transit for more than 10 days. Refer to Lethbridge School Division policy 502.3 *Suspensions and Expulsions*.

Procedures

The Division and school's Student Codes of Conduct, and their enforcement through consequences, shall apply to students

- 1.1 in school;
- 1.2 on the school grounds;
- 1.3 during any recess or lunch periods on or off school property;
- 1.4 at school sponsored or authorized activities;
- 1.5 on school busses or other forms of approved transportation; or
- 1.6 when the student's conduct detrimentally affects the welfare of individual students or the governance, climate, or efficiency of the school(s) regardless of where that conduct occurs.

Any form of bullying, discrimination or harassment as defined above is unacceptable, whether or not it occurs within the school building, during the school day or by electronic means,

The school encourages compliance with the following behavioural expectation examples, realizing this is not an exhaustive list:

- 1.7 respect yourself and the rights of others in the school;
 - 1.8 make sure your conduct contributes to a welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe learning environment in the school that respects yourself, the rights of others, diversity and fosters a sense of belonging of others in your school;
 - 1.9 refrain from, report, and refuse to tolerate bullying or bullying behaviour, even if it happens outside of the school or school hours, or digitally;
 - 1.10 inform an adult you trust in a timely manner of incidents of bullying, harassment, intimidation, or other safety concerns in the school;
 - 1.11 act in ways that honour and appropriately represent you and your school;
 - 1.12 attend school regularly and punctually;
 - 1.13 be ready to learn and actively engage in, and diligently pursue, your education;
 - 1.14 know and comply with the rules of your school;
 - 1.15 cooperate fully with everyone authorized by the Board to provide education programs and services;
 - 1.16 be accountable for your behaviour to your teachers and other staff;
 - 1.17 contribute positively to your school and community; and
 - 1.18 be a responsible digital citizen (See Policy 607.4 *Responsible Use of Technology*).
- 2 Examples of unacceptable behaviours include, but are not limited to:
- 2.1 behaviours that interfere with the learning of others and/or the school environment, or that create unsafe conditions;
 - 2.2 acts of bullying, harassment, discrimination, coercion, or intimidation;
 - 2.3 physical violence;
 - 2.4 retribution against any person in the school who has intervened to prevent

- or report bullying or any other incident of safety concern;
 - 2.5 illegal activity such as:
 - 2.5.1 possession, use or distribution of illegal or restricted substances;
 - 2.5.2 possession or use of weapons;
 - 2.5.3 theft or damage to property;
 - 2.5.4 contravention of Division policies and regulations;
 - 2.5.5 willful disobedience and/or open opposition to authority;
 - 2.5.6 use or display of improper or profane language;
 - 2.5.7 interfering with the orderly conduct of class(es) or the school;
 - 2.6 Contravention of the Student Code of Conduct as set out in the *School Act*, Section 12;
 - 2.7 Contravention of the provisions of Section 27 of the *School Act* related to trespassing, loitering, and causing a disturbance;
 - 2.8 Use of technology such as computers, cameras, cell phones, and other digital equipment for purposes that are illegal, unethical, immoral, or inappropriate.
- 3 Rules governing student conduct while being transported on school busses or other approved transport, shall be developed by the Division in consultation with the school administration and/or transit provider.
- 4 The following consequences of unacceptable behaviour shall apply taking into account the severity and magnitude of the incident(s) and the student's age, maturity, and individual circumstances:
- 4.1 supports, interventions and/or consequences include but are not limited to parent phone calls, student conferencing, counselling, assessments, positive behaviour plans and/or contracts, team meetings, conflict resolution, involvement of School Resource Officer;
 - 4.2 suspension;
 - 4.3 expulsion;
 - 4.4 involvement of police authorities.
- 5 Parents and guardians play a vital role in developing student behavior and conduct. It is the Division's expectation that a parent or guardian has the responsibility:
- 5.1 to take an active role in the student's educational success, including assisting the student in complying with Regulation 3 of this policy
 - 5.2 to ensure that the parent or guardian's conduct contributes to a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment
 - 5.3 to co-operate and collaborate with school staff to support the delivery of specialized supports and services to the student
 - 5.4 to encourage, foster and advance collaborative, positive and respectful relationships with students, teachers, principals, other school staff and professionals providing supports and services in the school; and
 - 5.5 to engage in the student's school community.

- 6 The school shall provide support for students who are impacted by inappropriate behaviour, as well as for students who engage in inappropriate behaviour. Schools may consult with Division Instructional Services for determining support mechanisms.
- 7 Procedures for lodging a complaint or concern.
 - 7.1 Should a student be subject to or witness of: bullying, harassment, discrimination, unwanted behaviors as described in procedure 4, or conduct that interferes with maintaining a welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe learning environment in the school, that student should contact a classroom teacher, their advisor, school counsellor, or any other staff member with whom they feel comfortable. A parent or guardian may make contact regarding a complaint or concern.
 - 7.2 All complaints of discriminatory, harassing, and bullying language and behaviours are taken seriously, documented, and dealt with in a timely manner.
 - 7.3 Confidentiality regarding the complaint shall be maintained by all parties as agreed relative to further action.
 - 7.4 A complaint or concern may be communicated informally through oral communication or formally in writing with a professional staff member or principal. Where possible, the complaint should clearly outline the cause for complaint or issue, as well as a description of the specific incident or incidents, the dates, and names of any witnesses.
 - 7.5 Complaints shall follow the channels of communication as outlined in Policy 1003.1 Channels of Communication and Dispute Resolution, Regulation #11 (start with closest source such as teacher or counsellor, to school administrator with principal the highest school level, to Associate Superintendent, to Superintendent, to Board). Policy 505.9 Appeals can be followed if a student or parent/guardian is dissatisfied with the decision at the level of the school principal.
 - 7.6 The professional staff member or principal will investigate the complaint and apply the appropriate consequences as delineated in number (6) including the School's Student Code of Conduct.
 - 7.7 The principal will determine whether the level of seriousness requires an investigation and/or police involvement. If the principal determines that the incident(s) requires police involvement, Policy 504.8 Involvement with Authorized Agencies will be followed.
 - 7.8 The professional staff member and/or school administrator and/or Division administrator will document the investigation and outcome, including any disciplinary action and supports as described in number (8). Policy 609.5 Student Records applies for record retention and disposition.
 - 7.9 Retaliation. No member of Lethbridge School Division No. 51 school community, including students, staff, parents/guardians, and/or volunteers, shall take retaliatory action with the intent of dissuading or punishing an individual for participating in the complaint resolution process. Individuals who retaliate may be subject to discipline and/or legal action.