



## **Rundle College Society Student Code of Conduct<sup>1</sup>**

The Board of Directors originally established a Code of Conduct when Rundle College Society (“Rundle”) was founded in 1985. In accordance with the *Education Act*<sup>2</sup>, the Code of Conduct is now made publicly available, reviewed every year, and provided to all staff, students and parents/guardians.

The Student Code of Conduct contains:

1. Purpose and Rationale
2. Prohibited Grounds of Discrimination
3. Acceptable and Unacceptable Behaviour
  - 3.1 Student Responsibilities
  - 3.2 Bullying
  - 3.3 Academic Integrity
  - 3.4 Use of Technology
  - 3.5 Dress Code
  - 3.6 Conduct Detrimental to the Safe Operations of the School
4. Consequences of Unacceptable Behavior
  - 4.1 Applicability
  - 4.2 Individualization and Support
  - 4.3 Student Wellness
  - 4.4 Suspensions and Expulsions
5. Limitations

### **1. Purpose and Rationale**

The purpose of this Student Code of Conduct is to provide a clear standard for student behaviour that is acceptable in the Rundle community. It is based on the rationale that the Rundle community of students, parents/guardians, and staff will focus on providing welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environments. Students will display positive attitudes and behaviour suggesting they are serious about all aspects of their school experience, will respect each other’s person and property, and will adhere to a high standard of moral and ethical conduct.

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<sup>1</sup> Updated September 2019

<sup>2</sup> Education Act s33(3)

## **2. Prohibited Grounds of Discrimination and Harassment**

All persons are equal in dignity, rights and responsibilities without regard to race, religious beliefs, colour, gender, gender identity, gender expression, physical disability, mental disability, age, ancestry,<sup>3</sup> place of origin, marital status, source of income, family status or sexual orientation.<sup>3</sup> Rundle does not condone any form of discrimination based on these prohibited grounds.

Harassment means any inappropriate conduct, comment, display, action or gesture by a person that constitutes a threat to a person's health or safety or that is likely to create a hostile environment. It involves either repeated conduct, comments, displays, actions or gestures or a single, serious occurrence of conduct, a comment, a display, an action or a gesture that has a lasting harmful effect. The effect could adversely impact a person's psychological or physical well-being. In cases of harassment, the person knew or ought reasonably to have known that their behaviour would cause a person to be humiliated or intimidated.

Harassment is a form of discrimination if it is based on one or more of the prohibited ground listed above.

Examples of harassment include, but are not limited to: written, verbal or physical abuse; threats; derogatory remarks; jokes and practical jokes that result in embarrassment or awkwardness; innuendo or taunts; bullying; physical or verbal assault; displays of pornographic, racist or offensive signs, images or material; unwelcome invitations or requests, whether indirect or explicit; and patronizing or condescending behaviour.

## **3. Acceptable and Unacceptable Behaviour**

### **3.1 Student Responsibilities**<sup>4</sup>

A student, as a partner in education, has the responsibility to:

- a. attend school regularly and punctually,
- b. be ready to learn and actively engage in and diligently pursue the student's education,
- c. ensure that the student's conduct contributes to a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging,
- d. respect the rights of others in the school,
- e. refrain from, report and not tolerate bullying or bullying behaviour directed toward others in the school, whether or not it occurs within the school building, during the school day or by electronic means,
- f. comply with the rules of the school and the policies of the board,
- g. co-operate with everyone authorized by the board to provide education programs and other services,
- h. be accountable to the student's teachers and other school staff for the student's conduct, and
- i. positively contribute to the student's school and community.

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<sup>3</sup> *Alberta Human Rights Act, Preamble*

<sup>4</sup> *Education Act s31*

### 3.2 Bullying

“Bullying” means 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.<sup>5</sup> “Cyberbullying” is a bullying that involves the use of information and communication technologies to support deliberate, repeated, and hostile behaviour by an individual or group that is intended to harm others.

“Bullying” also means the distribution of an intimate image of another person knowing that the person depicted in the image did not consent to the distribution, or being reckless as to whether or not that person consented to the distribution.<sup>6</sup>

The third week in November in each year is Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week and serves to promote awareness and understanding of bullying and its consequences in the school community.<sup>7</sup>

### 3.3 Academic Integrity

Rundle has a high standard of accountability in its academic rigor. Our students have a high level of knowledge and competence upon graduation. This standard cannot be recognized when academic dishonesty occurs whether through active choice (e.g., copying someone else’s work; plagiarism) or by collusion (e.g., providing work for someone else to copy). A breach of academic integrity is unacceptable and dishonest students will face consequences as severe as suspension or recommendation for expulsion.

### 3.4 Student Use of Technology Resources

Student behaviour will adhere to the Rundle ‘Student Use of Technology Resources Agreement’ that specifically governs the use and application of technology resources for all students.

### 3.5 Dress Code

Students at Rundle will adhere to their school’s established dress code during school hours and on related excursions. In situations where students are not required to wear the standard uniform (e.g., dress down days, theme days, Phys Ed and option courses, sports team practices, field trips and travel), students will dress in a manner that is modest, conservative, and promotes a positive image of Rundle. It is the responsibility of school personnel to address uniform concerns with student dress and deportment in all school-related activities.

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<sup>5</sup> *Education Act s1(1)(d)*

<sup>6</sup> *Education Act s1(1.1)*

<sup>7</sup> *Education Act s35*

### 3.6 Prohibited Activities

No person shall disturb or interrupt the proceedings of a school, disturb or interrupt the proceedings of a school meeting or board meeting, loiter or trespass in a school building or on property owned by a board, or conduct themselves in a manner detrimental to the safe operations of a school.<sup>8</sup>

## **4. Consequences of Unacceptable Behaviour**

Any behaviour which occurs either at school or in public which has the effect of seriously jeopardizing the good name and reputation of Rundle will lead to consequences as severe as suspension or recommendation for expulsion.

### 4.1 Applicability

A student may be suspended or be recommended for expulsion if the student fails to comply with the Code of Conduct or if the student's conduct, whether or not the conduct occurs within the school building during the school day or by electronic means, is injurious to the physical or mental well-being of others in the school.

### 4.2 Individualization and Support

Within each school, incidents of unacceptable behaviour will take account of the student's age, maturity and individual circumstances. Each school will provide reasonable support for students who are impacted by inappropriate behaviour, as well as for students who engage in inappropriate behaviour, through school personnel or referral to professional support outside of Rundle.

### 4.3 Student Wellness

Physical wellness is highly valued at Rundle. The possession or use of tobacco, inhalants (including vape apparatus, e-cigarettes), marijuana, alcohol, or illegal drugs in any and all activities related to Rundle will face consequences as severe as suspension and recommendation for expulsion. Students under the influence of marijuana, alcohol or illegal drugs in any activities related to Rundle will also face consequences as severe as suspension or recommendation for expulsion.

### 4.4 Suspensions and Expulsions<sup>9</sup>

A student may be suspended from school for one or more class periods or courses, from school transportation, or from any school-related activity or event for failing to comply with the expectations described in Rundle's Code of Conduct, or for misconduct that is injurious to the physical or mental well-being of others in the school, or for distributing an intimate image of another person as described in section 3.2. A student may be suspended whether or not the misconduct occurs within the school building or during the school day.

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<sup>8</sup> *Education Act s256*

<sup>9</sup> *Education Act s36 and s37*

Students may be expelled from Rundle for willful, blatant, and repeated behaviour that fails to comply with the expectations described in Rundle's Code of Conduct, or for misconduct that is injurious to the physical or mental well-being of others in the school, or for distributing an intimate image of another person as described in section 3.2, or for consuming marijuana, alcohol or using illegal drugs on an overnight trip. A student may be expelled whether or not the misconduct occurs within the school building or during the school day.

Parents/Guardians must be aware that their contracts with Rundle state that there will be no refund of fees in cases of expulsion.

## **5 Limitations**

The exercise of any right or the receipt of any benefit in this Code of Conduct is subject to the limitations that are reasonable in the circumstances under which the right is being exercised or the benefit is being received.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> *Education Act s(2)*