

Policy 2100

Code of Student Conduct

The code of student conduct serves as a foundation in support of but not limiting the broad discretionary authority of Windsor Bergen Academy personnel to maintain safety, order, and discipline within the school environment. The following code of student conduct shall be disseminated annually to all school staff, students and parents. The code is based on broad input from the school community and local core ethical values. The code will be reviewed annually at a staff meeting and updated as needed.

Windsor Bergen Academy recognizes the rights of all of its students to attend a program that is safe, in an environment conducive to learning and in an atmosphere where helpfulness and common courtesy prevail.

The Windsor Bergen Academy behavioral modification program is a model of positive reinforcement. The program is designed to promote the development of self-discipline. The behavior modification program is included in each student's IEP. Students are rewarded for good conduct and academic success with club and athletic privileges, luncheons, trips and school store purchases among other things. The use of counseling, conferences with students and their parents/guardians and case manager are additional steps taken to help students succeed.

It is the responsibility of Windsor Bergen Academy students to conform themselves and comply with all elements of the standard code of conduct at all times. They are expected to respect the person, property, and rights of others: obey authorized personnel and respond positively to those who hold that authority. Behaviors such as gross insubordination, serious or continued use of profanity and failure to follow basic rules and schedules can lead to time out or suspension.

Termination from the program may occur for incidents that include but are not limited to a student causing physical altercations with other students or staff, needs to be restrained on an ongoing basis or possesses weapons or any illegal substance in the school building. On-going poor attendance may also result in termination from the program.

This code is meant as a general guide since it is realized that no code of conduct could include all possible scenarios or behavioral issues. However, the following behaviors will be considered disruptive and subject to the use of the behavior management plan:

1. Continued and willful disobedience.
2. Open defiance of authority of a teacher or person having authority over a pupil.
3. Actions that constitute a danger to the physical well-being of other pupils/staff.
4. Fighting or physical assault or threats of assault upon another pupil or staff.
5. Taking or attempting to take personal property or money from another pupil/staff, whether by force or fear.
6. Harassing, intimidating, or bullying another pupil or school employee.
7. Willfully causing, threatening to cause, or attempting to cause damage to school property.

8. Leaving school grounds without permission.
9. Use or possession of unsafe or illegal articles.
10. Use of inappropriate language, including but not limited to cursing.
11. Use of any tobacco product on school property.
12. Use, possession, or sale of a controlled dangerous substance, including alcohol.
13. Causing a false alarm for fire, bomb threat, or any other reason for an emergency procedure.
14. Use or possession of firearms or any other instrument possessed and/or utilized with the intent to cause harm.
15. Wearing clothing that causes a distraction to the learning process. The wearing of hats, headbands, scarves, or headwear of any kind, halter tops, clothing with inappropriate messages, profanity or offensive slogans, clothing with drug, tobacco, alcohol, or double entendre, bare midriffs, or any other clothing deemed inappropriate by the school Principal will be prohibited.
16. Any other behavior considered by the school Principal to be disruptive to the educational program.

Special Note Regarding Pagers and Cell Phones.

Students shall be prohibited from possessing a remotely activating paging device on school grounds as per N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.8. In addition, students will not be permitted to bring a cell phone into the school building as they will be collected at the front door. If a student is granted permission due to special circumstances to bring a cell phone into the school building, the cell phone or pager must be turned off and kept secured and out of sight during school hours. Students in violation of this policy will have their cell phones/pagers confiscated and depending upon the circumstances returned at the end of the school day. Further violations will result in the cell phone/pager being returned to only a parent/guardian. The school will not be responsible for any lost or stolen phones. Pagers and cell phones may also be subject to search depending upon the circumstances in accordance with school policy.