



Title: **STUDENT DISCIPLINE**

Adopted: January 12, 2010

Reviewed: January 1, 2013

Revised: February 2017, November 2019

Authorization: Education Act, Ontario Regulation 472/07

PPM 128 (provincial and school board codes of conduct),

PPM 141 (programs for long term suspension),

PPM 142 (expulsion programs)

PPM 144 (bullying prevention)

PPM 145 (progressive discipline)

POLICY:

It is the policy of the Bloorview School Authority that all pupils have a safe, caring and accepting school environment in order to maximize their learning potential and to ensure a positive school climate for all members of the school community. There will be consequences for inappropriate behaviour.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. The Provincial Code of Conduct, Bloorview School Authority Code of Conduct, the *Education Act*, Ontario Regulation 472/07, Policy Program Memorandum (PPM) 128 (provincial and school board codes of conduct), 141 (programs for long term suspension), 142 (expulsion programs), 144 (bullying prevention) and 145 (progressive discipline) create expectations for behaviour for all persons on school property, outline strategies to be taken to reduce incidents and impose appropriate consequences for pupils.
2. The *Human Rights Code* of Ontario has primacy over provincial legislation and school board policies and procedures, such that the *Education Act*, regulations, Ministry of Education Program Policy Memoranda, and Bloorview School Authority policies and procedures which are subject to, and shall be interpreted and applied in accordance with, the *Human Rights Code* of Ontario.

3. Pursuant to the *Education Act*, principals are required to maintain proper order and discipline in schools, and pupils are responsible to the principal for their conduct and required to accept such discipline as would be exercised by a reasonable, kind, firm and judicious parent. A principal may delegate some disciplinary responsibilities to a teacher of the school in accordance with the *Education Act*, Ministry of Education policies and Bloorview School Authority procedures. In such circumstances, the delegation of authority and the authority delegated will be clearly identified in Bloorview School Authority procedures, as will the supports available to individuals in receipt of the delegated authority.
4. To meet the goal of creating a safe, caring, and accepting school environment, the Bloorview School Authority supports the use of positive practices as well as consequences for inappropriate behaviour, including progressive discipline, which includes suspension and expulsion where necessary.
5. The Bloorview School Authority considers homophobia, gender based violence and harassment on the basis of sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, race, colour, ethnicity, culture, citizenship, ancestry, origin, religion, creed, family status, socio-economic status, disability and/or any other immutable characteristic or ground protected by the *Human Rights Code*, as well as inappropriate sexual behaviour unacceptable.
6. Bloorview School Authority supports the use of positive practices to prevent such behaviour and authorizes the Principal and Director, having given due consideration to any mitigating circumstances, to impose consequences in appropriate circumstances, up to and including a referral to the Discipline Committee of Bloorview School Authority.
7. The Bloorview School Authority supports the use of disciplinary practices that are positive and inclusive in nature (e.g. restorative justice, counseling).
8. The Bloorview School Authority is encouraged to implement proactive positive practices and corrective supportive practices when necessary. However, before applying disciplinary measures, the Director or Principal or their designate and Discipline Committee of Bloorview School Authority shall consider the discriminatory impacts of disciplinary decisions on pupils protected by the *Human Rights Code*, including but not limited to race and disability, and whether or not accommodation is required.
9. This policy authorizes the creation of procedures for implementation, which might include requirements described in Ministry of Education PPMs as matters of policy, and any such procedures shall be considered guidelines pursuant to the *Education Act* and other relevant and/or related Ministry of Education materials and all of which will be sufficient for the purposes of implementing the requirements of Ministry of Education Policy Program Memoranda.