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## Introduction

A school should be a place that promotes responsibility, respect, civility, and academic excellence in a safe learning and teaching environment. A positive school climate exists when all members of the school community feel safe, comfortable, and accepted.

All students, parents, teachers, and staff members have the right to be safe, and to feel safe, in their school community. With this right comes the responsibility to contribute to a positive school climate. We at **Big Top CDC** should therefore focus on prevention and early intervention as the key to maintaining a positive school environment in which students can learn and teachers can teach.

The Code of Conduct sets clear provincial standards of behavior. These standards of behavior apply not only to students, but also to all individuals involved in the lives of our children here at **BIG TOP CDC** - parents, volunteers, teachers, guest, and other staff members - whether they are on school property, on school the school vans, at school-related events or activities, or in other circumstances that could have an impact on the school climate.

These local codes of conduct should also be communicated to all members of the school community.

## The Code of Conduct

### Purposes of the Code

Subsection 301(1) of Part XIII of the Education Act states that "the Minister may establish a code of conduct governing the behavior of all persons in schools". Subsection 301(2) sets out the purposes of this provincial code of conduct, as follows:

1. To ensure that all members of the school community, especially people in positions of authority, are treated with respect and dignity.
2. To promote responsible citizenship by encouraging appropriate participation in the civic life of the school community.
3. To maintain an environment where conflict and difference can be addressed in a manner characterized by respect and civility.
4. To encourage the use of non-violent means to resolve conflict.
5. To promote the safety of people in the schools.
6. To discourage the use of alcohol and illegal drugs.

## Standards of Behavior

### Respect, Civility, and Responsible Citizenship

All members of the school community must:

