



**ST. JOHNS
HIGH SCHOOL**

Welcome Back!

**Parent
Information**

AUGUST 14, 2024

This newsletter contains important information pertaining to the 2024-2025 school year.

Please read
Carefully



In June 2024, the St. Johns School Governing Board approved revisions to our Student Agenda. These changes address our Statement on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, along with our Code of Conduct, Dress Code, and Electronic Device Rules. The information included here outlines these updated policies.

Welcome Back, Parents and Guardians!

We are thrilled to welcome you and your child(ren) to a new and exciting school year at St. Johns School. Our team is dedicated to promoting and supporting an environment based on the principles of respect, integrity, and perseverance. We believe that every student has the potential to be successful and to feel a strong sense of belonging within our school community. We look forward to a productive and inspiring year ahead. Together, we can make this a memorable and successful year for all.

Statement on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

At St. Johns School, we are committed to fostering an environment of anti-racism, decolonization, equity, diversity, and inclusion. We believe in the importance of actively challenging intolerance and racism, acknowledging the impact of colonization, promoting fairness and equal opportunities for all, and embracing the diversity within our school community. Through education, dialogue, and inclusive practices, we strive to create a safe and supportive space where every student and staff member can thrive and be who they are. We believe it is our collective responsibility to learn, teach, and implement best practices that focus on these values. As such, any student who behaves or speaks in ways that go against these values will face consequences as determined by the administration.

St. Johns High School Code of Conduct

Students are expected to comply with the rules of the school and display self-discipline both in terms of their behaviour and their studies. These rules include, but are not limited to:

Be respectful and interact appropriately with all adults and fellow students:

Communicate respectfully, listen to others, respect rules and boundaries, be inclusive, take responsibility for yourself and your actions, contribute to a positive learning environment, etc.

Be respectful of school property:

Clean up after yourself (classrooms, cafeteria, hallways, outside, etc.), treat school property with care, do not participate in acts of vandalism or graffiti, etc.

Avoid unsafe actions and activities:

Be mindful of others around you, avoid reckless behaviour that may lead to injury (yourself or others), follow all school safety rules, etc.

Do one's best in all academic work:

Participate to the best of your ability, manage your time, be organized, take ownership of your learning, ask for help when needed, etc.

Arrive at school and to all classes on time and be ready to learn:

Set alarms, plan ahead, establish routines, etc.



Consequences of Rule Infractions

We encourage our students to be mindful of their responsibilities and to actively engage in the learning process. Students who disregard the school rules and regulations will be held accountable and will assume the following consequences for their behavior, always with the aim of learning from these experiences:

- Discussion with the teacher
- Detention(s)
- Conflict Resolution session with special education technician.
- Meeting with Principal or Vice Principal followed by communication to parents
- Student contract
- In-School or Out-of-School suspension
- Relocation from class
- Email or telephone call to parents
- Loss of a school privilege or activity (including field trips and special events)
- Meeting with student, parents, Principal or Vice Principal, and teacher
- Restitution of lost, stolen, or broken property
- Expulsion

St. Johns High School Dress Code

St. Johns School aims to set the proper tone for a respectful learning environment. As such, all staff and students are expected to maintain an appropriate level of dress as outlined below.

Our updated dress code is designed not only to promote a sense of unity, professionalism, and personal responsibility among our students but also to help them understand the importance of presenting themselves appropriately in professional settings. We believe that dressing appropriately at school prepares students for future career opportunities and workplace environments.

Students are encouraged to wear St. Johns clothing (t-shirts, sweaters, hoodies, etc.) that is available to order from Toro Graphic at www.torographix.shop Items can be ordered throughout the year and are delivered weekly.

Dress Code Guidelines:

- The bottom of all tops must touch the waist band of one's pants, shorts, or skirts.
- Follow the 'armpit to armpit rule' – clothing should cover anything below the line between one's armpits.
- Pants and shorts must be worn at the top of one's hips.
- Shorts, skirts, and dresses must be, with arms at one's side, at least as long as one's extended arm with a clenched fist.
- Tops must have shoulder straps – "tube tops" are not permitted.
- Clothing must not be see-through – if it is, a camisole underneath is required.
- Underwear cannot be worn as outerwear (underwear = any clothing that is worn under other clothing).
- Outdoor clothing (e.g., hats, caps, hoods, jackets/coats, sunglasses, etc.) is not to be worn in school. Backpacks should be left in lockers during the school day.
- Offensive or inappropriate logos, images, and text are not permitted on clothing (e.g., swearing, gang related insignia, drug/alcohol references, racist/sexist references, sexually related content, etc.)



Students in violation of this dress code will be asked to find appropriate clothing. Students may also be given a T-shirt to wear which must be returned at the end of the day. If a student refuses to cooperate, they will be sent to the ISS room (in-school suspension) for the rest of the day and parents will be notified.

St. Johns High School Electronic Device Policy

The following policy is in accordance with the ministry mandate on the removal of electronic devices from the classroom (effective as of January 9, 2024):

- During all class time, from bell to bell, the use of electronic devices (cell phones, tablets, smart watches, etc.) is not permitted by students.
- Students must ensure that their device is turned off or silenced during class time.
- All devices must be left in the student's locker or in the classroom's electronic device box/pouch.
- Any student caught with their cell phone on them and/or using their device during class time, regardless of the location (classroom, hallway, bathrooms, etc.), will have that device confiscated and sent to the main office.
- Any device that is sent to the office can only be picked up by the student at the end of the school day. See further consequences below.
- The use of devices will be permitted for planned pedagogy and can only be used with the authorization of the teacher.
- Any student who is caught using their device inappropriately will have it removed. In this instance, the parent/guardian will be contacted.
- Students who do not adhere to the electronic device policy repeatedly can lose the privilege of using their device during school hours.



Consequences include:

- First offence – cell phone can be picked up by the student at the end of the day.
- Second offence – cell phone can be picked up by the student at the end of the first day and must be handed in to the main office for a second day.
- Third offence – cell phone can be picked up by the student at the end of the first day and must be handed in to the main office for the next two school days.
- Fourth offence – cell phone will be confiscated until a meeting with parents/guardians takes place in order to establish a plan for the student. This plan may result in the loss of phone privileges at school for a determined amount of time.