# DC Prep Student/Family Policies SY 2021-2022

# **Table of Contents**

Discipline Policy	2
Attendance Policy	.28
Grievance Procedures	31
Non-Discrimination Policy	.32
Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Notice	.33
Enrollment Procedures (Admissions Preference)	.34



# **Discipline Policy**

# Code of Conduct: Community Commitments & Supports for a Positive School Culture

Providing students with authentic opportunities to develop social emotional skills within the context of a nurturing and supportive classroom and school community is at the heart of our mission as a school. We believe from PS – 8<sup>th</sup> grade our preppies are continuously growing their social emotional skills in self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills and responsible decision making (our Core Prep Competencies). The 5 Steps of Prep Ed (noted above) outline the ways each teacher creates the conditions in their classroom for all students to thrive. This involves acknowledging student behaviors and providing corrective teaching to address behaviors that violate shared classroom and school expectations. Our focus is in using teachable moments for students to grow and develop by supporting them in authentic application of their social emotional skills.

Guidelines exist to outline student behaviors by severity, possible teacher actions to support positive behavioral change and consequences aligned to each tier. This framework exists to help label and identify the severity of behaviors across a school while leaving judgment to teachers and school leaders to evaluate the frequency and intensity of behaviors in order to determine appropriate supports and consequences. It is important that any teachers sharing the responsibility of teaching the same group of students take time to meet and reflect on student behaviors, supports and actions they can take to set all students up for success. That proactive work will ensure that teacher reactions to behaviors are aligned to the specific needs and best practices for each child's individual growth. While we do not expect each adult's response to be the same, we aim to have all responses drive toward the same goals for that child's social emotional development.

We believe in using a developmentally appropriate and tiered approach to supporting students with meeting our schoolwide expectations. We recognize that all students require teaching and support to be successful learners. Our system includes:

- **1.** Classroom-based Supports and Responses to provide students with opportunities to reflect on, practice and improve behavior in line with our Community Expectations;
- **2.** Outside the Classroom Supports and Responses to provide students with opportunities to reflect on, practice and improve behavior in line with our Community Expectations; and a
- **3.** Schoolwide Tiered System of Consequences executed within classrooms and through specialized supports and services outside of the classroom.

We believe all students should have the opportunity to learn from their choices and as students mature, we expect them to take increasing responsibility for their actions.



**4.** Classroom-based Supports and Responses to provide students with opportunities to reflect on, practice and improve their behavior in order to meet DC Prep Community Commitments:

Classroom-based Responses and Supports	How Used	
Planned Teaching of Prep Skills, Prep	We integrate <b>Planned Teaching</b> embedded	
Expectations and Routines and procedures throughout the day in classrooms and		
All Grade Levels	common spaces to teach students and give	
	them opportunities to practice and apply	
	HOW to be a positive and productive	
	community member. We believe in teaching	
	clear Routines and Procedures to support	
	creating a productive and safe learning	
	environment. The Core Prep Competencies	
	we teach and embed into our daily lessons for	
	students to practice and apply include:	
	Self-awareness	
	Self-management	
	Social Awareness	
	Relationship Skills	
	Responsible Decision Making	
Praise, SHINE, Smiley Faces 😳, Additions	We integrate positive praise throughout the	
(DC Prep \$\$)	school day so that students feel pride and	
	success and to celebrate the growth of our	
	Preppies. When we see students	
	demonstrating strong skills or growing	
	significantly in a skill that has been a	
	challenge, we <b>praise</b> them in a genuine way	
	connected to a mindset of student excellence.	
	We document praise on student Prep	
	Notes or trackers in our early grades. Early	
	Childhood classrooms use a SHINE system,	
	early elementary grade classrooms use happy	
	faces (😊) and older grades use <b>additions</b>	
	connected to a DC Prep "Bank Account".	
Redirection, reminders, and corrective	Redirection, reminders, and corrective	
teaching	teaching are all strategies teachers use to	
	support students in meeting the <b>Community</b>	
	<b>Commitments</b> and receiving feedback in	
	order to correct themselves when they are not	
	meeting expectations. These can take many	
	forms including individual Redirection (Ex-	
	Jane, please remember to raise your hand	
	instead of calling out), whole class	



	<b>Reminders</b> (Ex- I'm waiting for two students
	to sit crisscross applesauce on the rug), etc.
	<ul> <li>Corrective Teaching is a strategy we use to teach and practice a replacement skill after naming the inappropriate behavior with a student or group of students. This can be used for small misbehaviors in the classroom in addition to teachers using our tiered consequences outlined below. The intent is to support the students in making amends for poor choices and correcting behavior and not designed to be punitive. Here are some common examples:</li> <li>When a student has used unkind words towards a classmate, he or she will be given the opportunity to apologize inside the classroom in addition to earning the appropriate consequence.</li> <li>If a student misuses classroom materials, he or she may lose the privilege of using the materials or may be asked to help organize the materials.</li> <li>If a student struggles to follow instructions during recess, he or she may be asked to sit out for 2 minutes and be given an opportunity to try again after reflecting on behaviors with the recess duty teacher.</li> </ul>
Classroom-based Responses and Supports	How Used
Fresh Start and Reflection	Fresh Start is a designated space inside of a classroom, where students can take time to practice using calming strategies to regulate their emotions and work on rejoining the group. Teachers may ask students to go to the Fresh Start spot, or students may ask proactively. Fresh Start is used in all elementary school classrooms.
	Reflection is used in our upper grades and is a space for students to reset or self-regulate their behavior after receiving multiple



	and institutes of the deside	
	redirections. Students can request to use the Reflection space proactively to help them self- regulate and teachers can request students to use the reflection space to provide corrective teaching.	
"Talk it Out" Table and Mediations	<ul> <li>"Talk It Out" is a strategy for teaching students to resolve conflict with a peer and to develop self-awareness to repair relationships. In many elementary school classrooms, there is a designated space (the "Talk it Out Table") for students to share their feelings and demonstrate their emotional management strategies. This space is usually used for peer to peer conflict resolution. Students can be asked to move to the space by a teacher and or transition to the space on their own when feeling calm and ready to talk.</li> <li>In upper grades, we use a similar "Talk it</li> </ul>	
	Out" strategy also called Mediation to provide students with space to talk about their feelings and resolve peer to peer conflict. It most often happens in a middle school setting outside of the classroom given the configuration and structure of the upper grade classes.	
Small Deal Square	The "Small Deal Square" is used in elementary classrooms for students who have received 1 to 2 redirections, and the teachers thinks the student will be able to reset or self- regulate their behavior with a little space before receiving an official logged consequence or time out. Small deal square is intended to be corrective and not punitive to give young children another space to improve their behavior. Once the student corrects his/her behavior, they are welcomed back to the team.	



# 5. Outside the Classrooms Support and Responses

Administrators including Student Support Coaches and School Counselors utilize restoring components to help students grow from and not repeat a behavioral incident. Some of the most frequent responses and supports are noted below. Families are notified when these responses are used.

Outside the Classrooms Support	How Used
and Responses	
Peer Mediation	Peer Mediation is used more frequently in the upper grades and typically led by classroom teachers and in some cases can be led by student-trained Peer Facilitators. Mediation is designed to provide students with a controlled, secure atmosphere that permits each person to tell their side of the story without interruption. The goal of mediation is to identify the issues underlying the problem and for the students to devise a plan that will resolve the problem and help them to avoid it from continuing, or repeating in the future.
Community Restoration Time (CRT) and Community Restoration Assignments (CRA)	Community Restoration Time is an opportunity for students to get targeted support with a member of the leadership team based on their behavior. This support comes after a student has been assigned a general consequence and/or detention and reflects needing more targeted support to address need. If the need persists, the student is referred for a Tier 2 support rather than continuing to be assigned CRT. Community Restoration Assignments (CRAs) are typically administered by teachers and provide students with an opportunity to repair hurt or damage done to the community. CRAs may be a part of a tiered consequence. When a student receives a CRA, the parent or guardian is notified. In many cases, the student will be asked to complete the CRA during detention which is held daily for the first 30 mins after school.
	Examples of CRAs: • Community Service • Directly with impacted teacher (i.e., help organize classroom with teacher at lunch, put a bulletin board together, etc.)



	<ul> <li>General (i.e, help sort books in library, help a teacher in a younger grade with something, etc.)</li> <li>Apology (Written or verbal)         <ul> <li>Should be completed by the end of the day after incident (so basically 24 hours).</li> </ul> </li> <li>A Prep Promise Statement/ Drawing/Statement         <ul> <li>Preppie makes a commitment to the person(s)-teacher, student or class- to work as a team member and think about himself/herself and each of them – being safe, kind and focusing on learning.</li> </ul> </li> <li>A Prep Circle         <ul> <li>SSC, Principal, Parent, Student, Impacted Teacher/Student circle up during a Student Reflection Meeting to discuss what happened.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Expanding Awareness and Prevention         <ul> <li>Preppie crafts an essay or report on a related topic to an incident and delivers it to the class and/ or at a community meeting based on incident (and age of Preppie) and/ or visits other classes to discuss the issue with Preppies</li> </ul></li></ul>
Outside the Classrooms Support	How Used
and Responses	
Office Referral	When students have made poor choices in a classroom, they may receive an Office Referral and visit with the SSC or other school administrator. Office Referrals are meant to be a space for the students to reflect on their behavior and discuss next steps which may include CRA, SRM or Tiered Consequence (DTN, ICS or OSS). When students have received an Office Referral, the parent/ guardian is notified by the teacher and/or SSC. The SSC or administrator decides on the appropriate supports and consequence(s) after meeting with the student.
Student Reflection Meeting (SRM)	Parents/ guardians of students who demonstrate unsafe or consistently disruptive behaviors will participate in a reflection meeting with a member of the support team the same day or next day. The goal of the meeting is to discuss the Preppie's behavior, factors



that may be contributing to the behavior and create a plan for home and school that supports the Preppie's success at school. The Preppie will join at the end for re-teaching or goal setting based on the team's action
plan.

### 6. Schoolwide Tiered System of Consequences

Despite our best efforts to establish school and classroom environments that are purposeful, productive, inclusive, safe, and equitable for all students, there will at times be incidents and behaviors that require an additional layer of response, support and/or consequence based on either the frequency and or severity of the behavior. In these instances, we use our Code of Conduct as a guide to determine how to best respond. Below are brief descriptions of the graduated levels of disciplinary actions used in Pre-School through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. For details on the specific consequence ladder, see the Elementary- and Middle-specific Code of Conduct documents below.

Schoolwide Tiered Consequences	How Used	
Time-Out	When a student has received multiple	
Early Childhood, Kindergarten, First Grade	redirections, and is unable to follow through	
	he or she may be asked to go to time out. At	
	the close of time out, the teacher <b>debriefs</b>	
	with the student by asking questions and	
	providing opportunities for reflection. For	
	example, "Why did you go to time out? What	
	can you do to improve your behavior?"	
Detention (DTN)	Students are assigned an afterschool	
2 <sup>nd</sup> through 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	detention and serve it that day or the	
	following day. During detention, students	
	write a reflection assignment or complete a	
	task related to the reason why they are in	
	detention. On Mondays, Tuesdays,	
	Thursdays and Fridays, students serve	
	detention from 3:45 - 4:15 PM. Due to the	
	2:00 PM early dismissal on Wednesdays,	
	detention is held from 2:00-2:30 PM.	
In Class Support (ICS)	Students are assigned ICS for behaviors that	
2 <sup>nd</sup> through 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	negatively impact the emotional or physical	
	safety of another community member or for	
	behaviors that are majorly disruptive to	
	learning. ICS is intended to provide targeted	
	support for individual students to address	
	the immediate need. Students who are not	
	successful on ICS are assigned an additional	
	day.	



Suspension	Students who willfully cause, attempted to cause, or threaten to cause bodily injury or emotional distress to another person may be suspended. Please see division-specific Code of Conduct for more details on behaviors that could result in suspension. Students are suspended between one and ten days based on the severity of the behavior. A Student Reflection Meeting with the Dean, Principal, or designee will be held on the day of the suspension or upon the student's return to school to support an improvement in behavior. Students who are suspended are expected to complete all homework assignments. Suspended students may be required to complete a reflection assignment or other action to rebuild a relationship with individuals impacted by his/her actions or to
	individuals impacted by his/her actions or to repair/restore property that has been damaged.
Expulsion Recommendation	Violent or illegal actions or repeated major violations of the Code of Conduct may result in expulsion.



## A Note About Consequences:

We believe consequences that are logical and directly connect to a child's behavior can be a powerful way to respond when the behavior violates one of our community commitments. Consequences aim to help students develop an understanding of their action(s) and the impact on the community. When administered effectively, consequences are respectful of the child's dignity. They focus on the behavior as the problem rather than the child and make the child an equal partner in resolving the issue and learning from it.

How consequences are administered is very important. A teacher's tone, from reflective and calm to angry and punitive, relays the message about the teacher's confidence in the student to resolve the issue. When teachers, students and families hold a shared belief that reflection and practice help students in adjusting behavior, all parties are more likely to engage in that process productively. When using consequences, you must believe:

- Children are learners, always with opportunities for growth
- Mistakes are part of the learning process
- Relationships with and between the children in each classroom matter

Consequences should work toward changing behavior because they offer both a direct connection to the behavior and an opportunity for reflection. Consequences at DC Prep include:

- Clear communication with the student about the behavior that violated a community commitment
- A follow up response (activity, conversation, etc.) that addresses the violation (ie. returning a stolen item and apologizing in writing and in front of the class)
- Timely communication with students and families to ensure everyone has information
- Examples of consequences include: a phone call home, apology (written or verbal), peer mediation, reflection in circles, family meeting, family shadow day, loss of privilege, payment of damaged items, item confiscation (used as a last resort), detention, ICS, etc.

There are some responses to behavior used as consequences that we do not condone at DC Prep:

- Withholding of food
- Loss of Recess (unless it is the result of something that happened during that recess and the student is excluded for the remainder of the block)

**Community Commitments:** To fulfill our mission, to do our shared work, to be the community we aim to be, we (adults and students) will:

- **7. Be Prepared:** I commit to showing up, ready to do my best work for myself and the people in our community students, teachers, families, colleagues.
- **8. Be Safe:** I commit to caring for myself physically, emotionally, and mentally so that I can bring my best to all I do.



- **9. Be Engaged:** I commit to be a learner, eager to push my thinking in both what I do and how I do it. I commit to take responsibility to solve challenges and am willing to tackle hard problems.
- **10. Be United:** I commit to learn and problem-solve through a lens of community, considering how my actions impact others on our collective team.

# Guidance on Student Behaviors, Supports & Consequences – Elementary: PS – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

Across all tiers, decisions made about consequences based on the frequency, intensity and/or severity of behaviors. All consequences are at the discretion of the administration. For more information on specific policies, including Bullying Prevention and Investigation and Student-on-Student Sexual Harassment refer to our website: <u>www.dcprep.org</u>. You may also request a copy of these policies at the front desk of any of our campuses.

Tier	Behaviors	Actions to Support	Consequence
		Positive Behavioral	*
		Change	
1	Multiple Tier 1 behaviors within	Re-Teaching	EC – 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade:
	the same class or school day may result in a higher-level infraction.	<ul> <li>Re-Direction</li> <li>Fresh Start/ Reflection</li> </ul>	Time Out or General Consequence
	• Off-task behaviors/minor disruptions to the learning environment (i.e., talking in class, out of seat, making noises, calling out, etc.)	<ul> <li>Small Deal Square</li> <li>Talk It Out Table</li> <li>Planned Teaching</li> <li>Reminders</li> <li>Corrective Teaching</li> </ul>	2 – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade: General Consequence (varies based on situation)
2	Multiple Tier 2 behaviors within	Peer Mediation	EC – K: Time Out
	the same class or school day may	• Family	or General
	result in a higher-level infraction.	Communication/	Consequence
	<ul> <li>Early Childhood Specific <ul> <li>Repeated time outs during the day requiring additional support.</li> <li>Significant tantrum (lasting 2 or more minutes without abatement).</li> <li>Physical behavior with another student or staff person</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Meeting</li> <li>Student Meeting</li> <li>Skills Teaching</li> <li>Re-teaching, Re- Direction, Reflection, Corrective Teaching</li> </ul>	1st: General Consequence 2/3: General Consequence or Detention



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	Extended emotional		Family
	behavior and/or		Conferences can
	significantly disruptive		be included any
	behavior (i.e., crying for an		time deemed
	extended period, shut down		necessary given
	and unable to participate in		behaviors.
	the class, falling asleep		
	repeatedly, discussing		
	inappropriate topics and		
	unable to be redirected,		
	etc.).		
	)		
	K - 3		
	• Failure to meet Prep		
	Expectations with support		
	• Tantrums/crying, pouting,		
	stomping feet for a short		
	period of time (resolved in		
	class).		
	<ul> <li>Throwing things in the</li> </ul>		
	classroom (i.e. paper, small		
	items, etc.).		
	Repeatedly off-task		
	behavior in the classroom		
	environment		
	• Hurtful		
	language/teasing/name		
	calling. (i.e., stupid, dumb,		
	fat, stinky, ugly, etc.)		
	Taking/ Stealing the		
	property of another		
	community member		
	Tie		
	SSC Involved in Follow U		
Tier	Behaviors	Actions to Support	Consequence
		Positive Behavioral	
		Change	
Tier 3	Multiple Tier 3 behaviors within	Peer Mediation	EC - 1st: General
	the same class or school day may	• Family	Consequence and
	result in a higher level infraction.	Communication/	Student Reflection
		Meeting	Meeting
	Early Childhood Specific	Student Meeting	-
	• Multiple tantrums within a	Skills Teaching	
	day.		



<ul> <li>Major disruption in the classroom.</li> <li>Repeated usage of inappropriate language.</li> <li>Destroying a peer's belongings.</li> <li>Recurring physical behavior with another student or staff person</li> <li>Kindergarten Specific         <ul> <li>Threatening anyone in words, looks, notes, or actions, directly or through another means</li> <li>Taking/stealing the property of another community member</li> <li>Spitting on another/roughhousing/hor seplay and not keeping hands to yourself</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Re-teaching, Re- Direction, Reflection, Corrective Teaching</li> <li>Behavior Contract</li> <li>Counselor Support</li> </ul>	Consequence, Detention and optional (SSC assigned ICS or CRT) Family Conferences can be included any time deemed necessary given behaviors.
<ul> <li>Multiple incidents of disruptive behavior during the school day</li> <li>Walking out of class without permission.</li> <li>Tantrums of an extended nature or substantially disruptive to instruction</li> <li>Improper use of the internet/technology.</li> <li>Threatening anyone in words, looks, notes, or actions, directly or through another means (including off-campus cyber-bullying or cyber sexual- harassment).</li> <li>Graffiti or mild defacement of school property.</li> </ul>		



<ul> <li>Using curse words/obscene</li> </ul>	
gestures or	
drawings/hurtful language	
(i.e., derogatory insults	
against race, nationality,	
8	
sexuality, etc.).	
• Spitting/roughhousing/hor	
seplay and not keeping	
hands to yourself	
<ul> <li>Throwing objects that can</li> </ul>	
injure (whether intentional	
or not)	
Destruction of computers	
(or other technology) due to	
behavior (along with	
payment of replacement	
cost)	
Academic Dishonesty	
-	
(Cheating or plagiarism –	
major projects, tests, or	
exams.). Student will also	
earn a 0% (zero) for the	
grade.	
Second and Third Grade Specific	
<ul> <li>Out of assigned</li> </ul>	
area/Skipping Class	
<ul> <li>Leaving class without</li> </ul>	
permission or leaving the	
school property without an	
approved chaperone or the	
explicit permission of the	
Principal.	
<ul> <li>Graffiti or mild defacement</li> </ul>	
of school property	
Using curse words/obscene	
gestures or	
drawings/hurtful language	
(i.e., derogatory insults	
against race, nationality,	
sexuality).	
• Failure to follow safety	
instructions (e.g., talking	
during a fire drill).	
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	Spitting/roughhousing/hor		
	seplay and not keeping		
	hands to yourself.		
	Taking/stealing the		
	property of another		
	community member.		
	Threatening anyone in		
	words, looks, notes, or		
	actions, directly or through		
	another means (including		
	off-campus cyber-bullying		
	or cyber sexual-		
	harassment).		
	Tantrums or significantly		
	disruptive behavior to the		
	learning environment, of an		
	extended nature		
	Failure to communicate		
	with staff about a situation		
	that impacts the safety of		
	the DC Prep community,		
	specifically related to drugs,		
	weapons, alcohol or other		
	unsafe behaviors.		
	Possession and distribution		
	of any form of pornography		
	or drawings of a explicit or		
	violent nature.		
	Open defiance or extreme		
	disrespect for adult		
	authority		
	Destruction or serious		
	defacement of school or		
	private property (including		
	Chromebooks and other		
	electronic devices).		
	Academic Dishonesty		
	(Cheating or plagiarism –		
	major projects, tests, or		
	exams.). Student will also		
	earn a 0% (zero) for the		
	grade.		
Tier 4:			
	Leader Assigned Only Consequences		



Tier	Behaviors	Actions to Support Positive Behavioral Change	Consequence
Tier 4	<ul> <li>Multiple Tier 4 behaviors within the same class or school day may result in a higher-level infraction. Decisions are made based on frequency, intensity and/or severity of behaviors.</li> <li>Early Childhood Specific <ul> <li>Repeated incidents of physical contact with the teacher (i.e., hitting, biting, kicking, etc.)</li> <li>A pattern of extreme or aggressive emotional outburst/tantrums</li> </ul> </li> <li>Kindergarten and First Grade Specific <ul> <li>Repeatedly disruptive behavior in the classroom environment with support</li> <li>Using curse words/obscene gestures or drawings/hurtful language (i.e., derogatory insults against race, nationality, sexuality, etc.).</li> <li>Graffiti or mild defacement of school property.</li> <li>Throwing objects that can injure (whether intentional or not)</li> <li>Destruction of computers (or other technology) due to behavior (along with payment of replacement cost).</li> <li>Walking out of class without permission.</li> <li>Tantrums of an extended nature or substantially</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Peer Mediation</li> <li>Family Communication/ Meeting</li> <li>Student Meeting</li> <li>Skills Teaching</li> <li>Re-teaching, Re- Direction, Reflection, Corrective Teaching</li> <li>Behavior Contract</li> <li>Counselor Support</li> </ul>	EC - 1: Student Reflection Meeting 2/3: Detention, ICS or CRT <u>AND</u> Student, Family, Teacher & SSC Meet for a Student Reflection Meeting (This meeting must include the creation of an action plan for the student)



	disruptive to instruction		
	<ul> <li>disruptive to instruction</li> <li>Second and Third Grade Specific <ul> <li>Fighting (as participant or instigator), including punching, slapping, scratching and wrestling</li> <li>Racism, sexual harassment, bullying, or any other such oppressive behavior that causes, attempts to cause, or threatens to cause bodily injury or emotional distress</li> </ul></li></ul>		
	Tie	r 5:	
	Leader Assigned C	Only Consequences	
Tier	Behaviors	Actions to Support Positive Behavioral Change	Consequence



Tier 5	All Grades	Need to engage leader	Suspension
	• A pattern or extreme or	right away	I
	aggressive emotional		Student, Family,
	outbursts and/ or repeated		Teacher & Dean
	incidents of physical contact		Meet for a
	(i.e., hitting, biting, kicking,		Student
	etc.) that cause or attempt to		Reflection
	cause bodily injury or		Meeting
	emotional distress to		
	another Preppie or the		Leader Assigned
	teacher.		only
	• A pattern of behaviors		
	related to racism, sexual		
	harassment, bullying, or any		
	other such oppressive		
	behavior that causes,		
	attempts to cause, or		
	threatens to cause bodily		
	injury or emotional distress		
	<ul> <li>Any communicated threat</li> </ul>		
	or action that involves the		
	bodily injury or emotional		
	distress of the school		
	community (i.e., results in		
	use of emergency		
	procedures/school		
	lockdown and/ or		
	involvement of first		
	responders).		
Tier 6	Level 6 behaviors may result in an	Need to engage leader	Expulsion
	Expulsion Recommendation	right away	Recommendation
	• Breaking any DC or Federal		
	law.		Discipline Review
			Hearing will
			occur anytime an
			expulsion recommendation
			is issued
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**Guidance on Student Behaviors, Supports & Consequences – Middle:** 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Across all tiers, decisions made about consequences based on intent of the behavior as well as the frequency, intensity and/or severity of behaviors. All consequences are at the discretion of the administration. For more information on specific policies, including Bullying Prevention and Investigation and Student-on-Student Sexual Harassment refer to our website: www.dcprep.org. You may also request a copy of these policies at the front desk of any of our

<u>www.dcprep.org</u>. You may also request a copy of these policies at the front desk of any of our campuses.

Tier	Behaviors	Actions to Support Positive Behavioral Change	Consequence
1	<ul> <li>Multiple Tier 1 behaviors within the same class or school day may result in a higher-level infraction.</li> <li>Off-task behaviors/minor disruptions to the learning environment (i.e., not following classroom instructions, lack of engagement in learning or classwork)</li> <li>Failure to follow safety instructions during a fire or lockdown drill (Moved from Tier 3)</li> <li>Chewing gum or candy in class (Moved from Tier 2)</li> <li>Possession of cell phones/toys/other electronic devices with wireless capability that can be used for playing games, accessing social media, making phone calls, sending texts, etc. in school outside of a student's locker (e.g., phones, PDAs, iPods, video games, PSPs, CD players, MP3 players, watches that function as phones, etc.) (We moved possession language to Tier 1, but kept use to Tier 2)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Re-Teaching</li> <li>Re-Direction</li> <li>Reflection</li> <li>Planned Teaching</li> <li>Reminders</li> <li>Corrective Teaching</li> <li>Phone Call Home</li> </ul>	4th – 8th Grade: General Consequence or Detention Family Conferences can be included any time deemed necessary given behaviors.



2	<ul> <li>Multiple Tier 2 behaviors within the same class or school day may result in a higher-level infraction.</li> <li>Out of assigned area/Skipping Class</li> <li>Not following adult instructions with multiple redirections or multiple off task disruptions</li> <li>Tardy to class (<i>includes being</i> <i>late because of bathroom breaks</i>, <i>lost notes</i>, etc.).</li> <li>Hurtful language/teasing/name calling (i.e., stupid, dumb, fat, stinky, ugly, etc.).</li> <li>Improper use of the internet/technology.</li> <li>Use of cell phones/toys/other electronic devices with wireless capability that can be used for playing games, accessing social media, making phone calls, sending texts, etc. in school outside of a student's locker (e.g., phones, PDAs, iPods, video games, PSPs, CD players, MP3 players, watches that function as phones, etc.).</li> <li>Academic dishonesty (cheating or plagiarism – major projects, tests, or exams). Student will also earn a 0% (zero) for the grade.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Peer Mediation</li> <li>Family Communication / Meeting</li> <li>Student Meeting</li> <li>Skills Teaching</li> <li>Re-teaching, Redirection, Reflection &amp; Corrective Teaching</li> <li>Phone Call Home</li> </ul>	Individual teacher- student conference (equivalent of DTN) Teachers may assign a logical consequence in addition to the individual student- teacher conference.
	SSC Involved in Follow U	1 1 1	rt
Tier 3	Behaviors Multiple Tier 3 behaviors within	Actions to Support Positive Behavioral Change • Peer Mediation	Consequence General
5	the same class or school day may	• I eet Mediation	Consequence,



result in	n a higher level infraction.	Restorati	ive	Detention and
Student	s who are unsuccessful after	Work/ N	Aeeting	optional (SSC
multipl	e (2 or 3 days) of Tier 3	• Family	U	assigned ICS or
	uences will complete a	Commur	nication	CRT)
	inity Restoration	/ Meetin	ng/	,
-		Śhadow	0,	Family Conferences
	nent. Leaving class without permission or leaving the school property without an approved chaperone or the explicit permission of the Principal. Graffiti or mild defacement of school property Using curse words/obscene gestures or drawings/hurtful anguage (i.e., derogatory nsults against race, nationality, sexuality). Failure to follow safety nstructions Spitting/roughhousing/hors eplay and not keeping hands to yourself. Taking/stealing the property of another community member. Threatening anyone in words, looks, notes, or actions, directly or through another means (including off- campus cyber-bullying or cyber sexual-harassment). Tantrums or significantly disruptive behavior to the earning environment, of an extended nature, (student may be escorted from class). Failure to communicate with staff about a situation that mpacts the safety of the DC Prep community, specifically related to drugs, weapons,	-		Family Conferences can be included any time deemed necessary given behaviors.



			1
	alcohol or other unsafe		
	behaviors.		
	<ul> <li>Possession and distribution</li> </ul>		
	of any form of pornography		
	or drawings of a explicit or		
	violent nature.		
	<ul> <li>Destruction or serious</li> </ul>		
	defacement of school or		
	private property (including		
	Chromebooks and other		
	electronic devices).		
	Multiple instances of cell-		
	phone use during the school		
	day (note: may require		
	parent to pick-up cell phone)		
	An instance involving racism,		
	sexual harassment, bullying,		
	or any other such oppressive		
	behavior that causes,		
	attempts to cause, or		
	threatens to cause bodily		
	injury or emotional distress		
	Tio	er 4:	
	Leader Ass	signed Only	
Tier	Behaviors	Actions to Support	Consequence
		Positive Behavioral	
		Change	
4	Multiple Tier 4 behaviors within	Need to engage leader	Leader Assigned
	the same class or school day may	right away	Only
	result in a higher level infraction.		-
	Decisions are made based on		All: Student
	frequency, intensity and/or severity		<b>Reflection Meeting</b>
	of behaviors.		(SRM)
	• Any of the behaviors		The Parent, one
	(outlined in this section) that		teacher and dean
	repeatedly occur off school		and/or Principal meet
	grounds or outside regular		the same day or next
	school hours that causes,		day to discuss the
	attempts to cause or		student's behavior,
	threatens to cause bodily		factors contributing to
	injury or emotional distress		the behavior and to
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		create an action plan
	• Fighting (as participant or		1
	• Fighting (as participant or instigator) including		for home and school.
	• Fighting (as participant or instigator), including		



	punching, slapping,		Additional
	scratching, wrestling, and other seriously dangerous		Consequences Include:
	and potentially injurious behaviors.		In Class Support
	<ul> <li>Any pattern of behaviors involving racism, sexual harassment, bullying, or any</li> </ul>		Community Restoration Time
	other such oppressive behavior that causes,		Suspension
	attempts to cause, or threatens to cause bodily		
	injury or emotional distress	<b>F</b>	
		er 5: signed Only	
Tier	Behaviors	Actions to Support Positive Behavioral Change	Consequence
5	Level 5 behaviors/behaviors result	Need to engage leader	Expulsion
	in an Expulsion Recommendation	right away	Recommendation
	• Any of the behaviors (outlined in this section) that repeatedly occur off school grounds or outside regular school hours that involve		(Discipline Review Hearing will occur anytime an Expulsion Recommendation is
	causing, attempting to cause, or threatening to cause bodily injury or emotional distress		issued)
	<ul> <li>Any communicated threat or action that involves the bodily injury or emotional distress of the school</li> </ul>		
	community (i.e., results in use of emergency		
	procedures/school lockdown and/ or involvement of first responders).		
	<ul> <li>Breaking any DC or Federal law.</li> <li>Possesses a firearm,</li> </ul>		
	knife, razor blade, or any dangerous object with no reasonable		



	use to the student in	
	school, in a manner	
	that causes a	
	disruption to the	
	learning environment	
	or endangers school	
	safety.	
0	Committing or	
	attempting to commit	
	arson.	
0	Selling, transferring,	
	using, or possessing	
	alcohol or other	
	controlled substances.	
0	Possession, sale, or	
	use of a facsimile of a	
	weapon or of a	
	simulated controlled	
	substance with the	
	intention of	
	threatening or	
	deceiving others.	
0	Assault of a sexual	
	nature.	

# Go Guardian Alerts

All DC Prep computers have software intended to provide our leadership team with flags should students access content deemed unsafe for our preppies. When these flags are received by SSCs they will communicate that information to families.

# Virtual Code of Conduct

Students in the virtual learning program are expected to adhere to the same community commitments as all DC Prep students and can anticipate the same consequences should they violate those commitments. In the event of violations of community commitments, the Virtual School Leader will follow up. More information about the virtual school can be found in the Virtual School Handbook.

### Suspension and Due Process Procedures

The decision to suspend a student will be made by the Principal. The number of days of suspension will be determined based on the severity of the infraction, the age of the student, and previous infractions. No out-of-school suspension will be issued for longer than five consecutive days for grades K-5, or ten consecutive days for grades 6-8. A suspension will not



exceed ten days. The suspension shall become effective immediately unless otherwise stated by the Principal or their designee.

Students for whom suspension is being considered will be given notice and an opportunity to be heard before a final decision regarding suspension is made. The following procedures will apply for students facing short-term suspension. Short-term suspension is less than three (3) days for Kindergarten-5th grade, less than six (6) days for 6th-8th grades. Prior to issuing the suspension, the Principal or a designee will meet with the student, notify the student of what he/she is accused of doing and the information that the school has to believe that the student engaged in such behavior, and give the student an opportunity to present his/her side of the story or explanation for his/her behavior. If necessary, the Principal or a designee will conduct an investigation into the circumstances of the student's behavior and any explanation provided by the student. Any investigation will be completed within two (2) school days. At the discretion of the Principal or a designee the student may be suspended pending the results of the investigation. After the meeting with the student and any investigation, the Principal or a designee will such a Disciplinary Tracking Form, to the parent detailing the length of the suspension, reason for the suspension and an explanation of the information being relied on as a basis for the suspension.

The following procedures will apply for students facing long-term suspension. Long-term suspension is more than three (3) days for Kindergarten-5th grade and more than six (6) days for 6th-8th grades. Prior to issuing a recommendation for a long-term suspension, the Principal or a designee will meet with the student, notify the student of what he/she is accused of doing and the information that the school has to believe that the student engaged in such behavior, and give the student an opportunity to present his/her side of the story or explanation for his/her behavior. If necessary, the Principal or a designee will conduct an investigation into the circumstances of the student's behavior and any explanation provided by the student. Any investigation will be completed within two (2) school days. At the discretion of the Principal or a designee the student may be suspended pending the results of the investigation. After the meeting with the student and any investigation, the Principal or a designee will issue written notice to the parent detailing the length of the recommended suspension, the reason for that recommendation and an explanation of the information being relied on as a basis for the recommendation.

A discipline review hearing will be held within ten (10) school days of the incident that resulted in a recommendation for long term suspension, where a final decision will be made about the recommended disciplinary action. At the hearing, the Principal or a designee will present the information relied on to support the recommended disciplinary action; the student will be given an opportunity to fully respond to that information; the student may be represented by an attorney; and the student may present any information that he/she wants the decision maker to consider. The Principal or designee will act as an impartial decision maker for long term suspension recommendations. The impartial decision maker will be a different staff member than the staff member who collected and presented information about the incident. The Principal or designee will hear all of the information presented and make a final decision about the recommended disciplinary action. At the conclusion of the hearing or within the next school day, the Principal or designee will notify the parent in writing of the final determination.



At the Principal or designee's discretion, students who are recommended for long-term suspension will be suspended pending a final determination about the recommendation for long-term suspension.

Students with disabilities (IEP and 504) who are suspended for more than 10 school days in a school year must have a manifestation meeting. If a student needs to be suspended for more than 10 days in a school year or is being recommended for expulsion, then the MDT must be involved and hold a manifestation determination meeting. If the team determines that the behavior is not a manifestation of the student's disability the student can be disciplined in the same manner a nondisabled student would be except that the school will provide services to that child until the end of the school year (including extended school year when applicable) or until the child begins attending another school, whichever occurs first. If the behavior is a manifestation, then the student will be allowed to return to school unless the team agrees otherwise (or unless the student possessed or used drugs, possessed a weapon or caused serious bodily injury) and the team will consider alternative consequences and/or interventions to address the behavior. Students with disabilities who are suspended for more than 10 days in a school year will receive services in an interim alternative educational setting.

### **Pre-Expulsion and Due Process Procedures**

Should a student consistently struggle with the behavioral expectations of DC Prep, the student may participate in the pre-expulsion process.

The Pre-Expulsion process includes:

- 11. A conference attended by the Principal or designee. At least one of the student's teachers may be in attendance, as well as the child's parent or guardian and the child (if appropriate).
- **12**. The development of the pre-expulsion contract which details the responsibilities of all parties, including the family, child, and school, to support the student's success at DC Prep.
- 13. A follow-up conference at the end of the pre-expulsion period.
- 14. The terms of the pre-expulsion period are as follows:
- The probationary period is at minimum four (4) weeks.
- Should the student commit any combination of three (3) minor disciplinary infractions or one suspension within this period the student may be recommended for expulsion.

If a student successfully completes the pre-expulsion period, the school will review the disciplinary record regularly to monitor progress. Should the student once again begin to violate the school's code, an additional probationary period and pre-expulsion meeting is not required for an expulsion recommendation.

Should a student at DC Prep be recommended for expulsion due to excessive and/or repeated academic or behavioral violations of the school Code of Conduct, the school may choose to implement the Discipline Review process.



In cases where the student engages in the following activities, the Discipline Review process will be implemented immediately:

- Repeatedly engages in conduct which substantially disrupts school or classroom activity.
- Endangers or repeatedly threatens to endanger the health, safety, welfare of others.
- Assaults or threatens to assault a staff member (physically/verbally).
- Severely assaults another student.
- Possesses a firearm, knife, razor blade, or any dangerous object with no reasonable use to the student in school, in a manner that causes a disruption to the learning environment or endangers school safety.
- Possesses or uses alcohol or illegal drugs/controlled substances on school property.
- Commits vandalism/arson.
- Engages in any sexual acts/behaviors on campus or school-sponsored field trip.

### Expulsion and due process procedures

The following procedures will apply for students facing expulsion. Prior to issuing a recommendation for expulsion, the Principal or designee will meet with the student, notify the student of what he/she is accused of doing and the information that the school has to believe that the student engaged in such behavior, and give the student an opportunity to present his/her side of the story or explanation for his/her behavior. If necessary, the Principal or designee will conduct an investigation into the circumstances of the student's behavior and any explanation provided by the student. Any investigation will be completed within two (2) school days. At the discretion of the Principal the student may be suspended pending the results of the investigation. After the meeting with the student and any investigation, the Principal or designee will issue written notice to the parent detailing the reason for the recommendation for expulsion and an explanation of the information being relied on as a basis for the recommendation.

At the Principal or designee's discretion, students who are recommended for expulsion will be suspended pending a final determination about the recommendation for expulsion.

Failure to attend the hearing will waive the parent's or guardian's option to appeal. If the parent or guardian attends the hearing and disagrees with the decision, then the parent or guardian may engage in the appeals process (*see below*).

### **Appeals Progress**

Families and students have the right to appeal a suspension or expulsion. The appeals process is as follows:



- **1. Submit request to appeal in writing within one school day** of being notified of the suspension. The written request should be submitted to a member of the academic leadership team.
- 2. DC Prep will attempt to **schedule the Appeal Hearing within three days** of receiving the written request to appeal. If the parent/guardian fails to appear for the scheduled Appeal Hearing, the right to appeal is waived, and the original disciplinary decision will stand.
- 3. DC Prep will **conduct the Appeal Hearing.** The student and his or her parents/guardians, the student's teachers (or representative from the teaching team), a Principal (or campus leader), a member of the Senior Academic Leadership team from the Home Office, and other school staff may be invited to participate in the Appeal Hearing as DC Prep sees fit. The Appeal Hearing may include the presentation of evidence, testimony, and questioning of those present. Appeal Hearings are closed to the public, cannot be video recorded under any circumstances, and can only be audio-recorded as required to provide accommodations pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Requests to audio-record an Appeal Hearing must be submitted to a member of the academic leadership team no less than 48 hours before the hearing.
- 4. Following the Appeal Hearing, DC Prep will **communicate the final decision in writing within three school days** to the parent/guardian. A copy of this notification will be included in the student's cumulative file. The Appeal Hearing outcome notification will include the right to appeal and information regarding DC Prep's final appeal process.

If any short-term suspension, long-term suspension, or expulsion is upheld on appeal and the parent/guardian wants to request a final appeal, the final appeal process is as follows:

- **1. Submit request to appeal in writing within three school days** of being notified of the appeal decision. The written request should be submitted to a member of the academic leadership team.
- 2. DC Prep will **review the evidence and testimony** from the original disciplinary decision and the Appeal Hearing. **The final decision will be communicated in writing within one week**. This decision will be final.



# **Attendance Policy**

All Absences - "Excused" or "Unexcused" - are Considered Absences.

#### Excused Absences The following circumstances will be considered excused absences with a valid excuse note:

- Illness of the student.
- Documented (on letterhead) medical or dental appointments for the student.
- A death in the student's immediate family.
- The closing of school by city authorities
- Necessity for the student to attend a judicial procedure.
- Observation of a religious holy day.
- Failure of the District of Columbia to provide transportation in cases where DC has a legal responsibility for the transportation of the student.
- Exclusion, by direction of the authorities of the District of Columbia, due to quarantine, contagious disease, infection, infestation, or other condition requiring separation from other students for medical or health reasons.
- Other absences approved in advance by the principal upon the written request of the parent/guardian.

When a student returns to school after an absence of 1-4 days, please send your child with a note. This note should be delivered to the front-desk within 48 hours and include:

- The student's full name;
- Date(s) of the absence(s);
- The reason for the absence(s); and
- A parent/guardian's signature.

Absences of five (5) or more days, and any subsequent absences related to illness, generally require a doctor's note. A doctor's certificate should also be provided for medical appointments scheduled during the school day.

Student absences due to suspension are treated the same as excused absences.

### **Unexcused Absences**

If a student is absent from school, we require a note explaining the absence. If a student does not have a note, or the note is not in compliance with the DC Compulsory Attendance Act, the absence will be considered unexcused. Daily attendance is required for student participation in school-sponsored field trips, end of year trips, non-academic activities and off-site school sponsored or approved activities during a regularly-scheduled school day. When we observe that students are developing a poor attendance record (punctuality or absences), we will contact your family to determine how we can work together to address the concern. We want to support you with any barriers that prevent regular and/or punctual attendance.



### Early Dismissal

Students are expected to stay in school until the end of the school day. Students who leave school two hours before dismissal (or arrive two hours after school has begun) are considered Half-Day Absences. Preppies with medical or dental appointments that require early dismissal should bring a note into school the following morning and submit it to the campus Operations Assistants.

If a parent sends in a doctor's note (or other official documentation, like a court appointment), the early dismissal can be excused. Similar to punctuality, early dismissal may prevent students from earning certain DC Prep incentives.

#### Supporting Chronic Absences

- **Five Absences in a Quarter:** Discuss with Student Support Coach to develop an action plan.
- **Ten Absences in a Quarter:** Child may be placed on an Attendance Contract and Support Plan. *At* 10 *unexcused absences, a child is considered truant according to DC Law and we are required by law to contact the Child & Family Services (CFSA)*
- Seventeen Absences in a Year (excused and unexcused): Child may not be promoted to next grade level.

#### Truancy

Truancy is defined as any school-age child (ages 5-18) with 10 unexcused absences at any time during the school year. No later than two (2) days after the accrual of multiple absences as described above, truant students are reported to the:

- District of Columbia Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA);
- Office of the Attorney General, *depending on student's age;* and
- Court of Social Services, Superior Court of the District of Columbia, *depending on student's age*.

#### **Tracking attendance**

DC Prep is required by law to keep an accurate, daily record of the attendance of all students. Our records are also subject to inspection at any time by the PCSB, OSSE, or other government entities. Attendance will be taken on campus by teachers in their homerooms each morning. The campus Operations Team tracks student tardies and excused absences. Students who leave school before dismissal time must sign out in the Early Dismissal Log. These records and student enrollment information are maintained in PowerSchool. Attendance records for students who are participating in a virtual learning program are generated from logs of student usage of learning platforms. Students will be expected to attend all their synchronous lessons every day, signing in with their DC Prep-issued email address and password to the Google Meet class.



#### Absences due to Quarantine

Given the recent COVID-19 regulations, there is some specific guidance provided for Attendance as it relates to students required to quarantine as a result of students (1) receiving positive COVID-19 test results, (2) awaiting COVID-19 test results, and/or (3) adhering to citywide quarantine rules as a result of travel or exposure to COVID-19. Absences for students who are sick will follow the guidance above. In the event that a student is required to be absent as a result of quarantine, but otherwise able to participate in learning, the child may be consider "Virtual Present" under the following circumstances:

- the entire class is under quarantine along with the teacher who has flipped to providing virtual instruction
- an individual student participates in learning remotely by submitting classwork via SeeSaw or Google Classroom and/or communicating with the teacher to communicate what was accomplished/ worked on during the virtual day

These specific cases are subject to change per guidance from the city, OSSE or updated thinking from DC Prep as an LEA given the unprecedented and novel nature of the situation.



# **Grievance Procedures**

Any person who believes that DC Prep has violated the regulations of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Title VI, Title IX, and/or the Age Act may submit a complaint pursuant to DC Prep's Grievance Procedures. A copy of the grievance procedures can be obtained by request through:

Senior Director of Student Support	or	DC Prep Chief Operating Officer
707 Edgewood Street, NE		707 Edgewood Street, NE
Washington, DC 20017		Washington, DC 20017
202-635-4590		202-635-4590

# **Complaint Resolution Procedures**

Families may occasionally need to raise a problem or concern with DC Prep staff or, in certain instances, file a complaint with the organization. If that is the case, please thoroughly review and follow the steps outlined below. If you do not follow these steps in the order in which they are set out, you will be asked to go back to Step I, Step II, and/or Step III.

- *STEP I: Check the Family Handbook*: As an initial step, please refer to this Family Handbook to see if your concern or issue is addressed before reaching out to DC Prep staff.
- *STEP II: Communicate with Campus-Based Staff:* If you cannot find the answer in the Handbook, schedule an appointment via cell phone or email <u>directly</u> with the faculty or staff person with whom you need to share your concern. Please allow this individual 24 hours (during the school work week) to return your call or email.
- *STEP III: Contact Campus-Based Leadership:* If you need further assistance after talking with the teacher or staff member, please contact <u>your child's Principal</u> via email or phone.
- *STEP IV: Communicate with DC Prep's Home Office:* Only after meeting with the Principal, should you contact Tara O'Flaherty, the Senior Director of Schools. You may contact her via email at <u>toflaherty@dcprep.org</u> or by phone at 202-635-4590. If the issue is still not resolved after speaking with Mrs. O'Flaherty, you should contact Katie Severn, Chief Academic Officer & President, via email at <u>ksevern@dcprep.org</u> or by phone at 202-635-4590.
- *STEP V: Contact DC Prep's Chief Executive Officer:* The final step would be to contact Laura Maestas, Chief Executive Officer, via email at <u>lmaestas@dcprep.org</u> or by phone at 202-635-4590. <u>We anticipate that only a handful of concerns, if that many, should ever be referred to the CEO</u>.
- *STEP VI: Contact DC Prep's Board of Trustees:* In the event a complaint has not been resolved through the previous steps, please contact the Chair of DC Prep's Board of Trustees, Michela English, at <u>board.feedback@dcprep.org.</u>



# **Non-Discrimination Policy**

### Notice of Nondiscrimination

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 ("Title VI"), Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 ("Title IX"), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ("Section 504"), Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 ("The Age Act"), applicants for admission and employment, students, parents, employees, sources of referral of applicants for admission and employment, and all unions or professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements with DC Prep Public Charter School ("DC Prep") are hereby notified that DC Prep does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, sexual orientation, or disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities.

Students, parents and/or guardians having inquiries concerning DC Prep's compliance with Section 504 or the ADA **as it applies to students or who wish to file a complaint regarding such compliance should contact**:

Director of Special Education 707 Edgewood Street, NE Washington, DC 20017 202-635-4590

For inquiries or to file a complaint regarding DC Prep's compliance with ADA, Section 504 as it relates to employees or third parties, and compliance with Title VI, Title IX, and the Age Act as it relates to students, employees and third parties contact:

DC Prep Chief Operating Officer

707 Edgewood Street, NE

Washington, DC 20017

202-635-4590



# Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Notice

Per the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), all student records are treated as confidential and kept under restricted conditions. Any parent noted on the child's enrolling birth certificate has full access to the child's record unless there is current, legal documentation on file at school stating that guardianship and/or educational rights over the child has been removed, restricted or revoked. Parents may request to review their child's records at any time, or to be informed of the information contained therein.

Student records include:

- Date(s) of enrollment.
- Current grade level assignment and date(s) of promotion to each grade level.
- Daily attendance.
- Daily absences with an explanation from parents/guardians.
- Date and brief description of communications with parents/guardians with regard to student attendance and absences, including the record of, or a cross-reference to, the record documenting:
  - o Contact with parents/guardians or other primary caregivers; and
  - Interventions, services, and referrals related to absences.
- Date of withdrawal or transfer to another school, the name and location of the school to which a student transfers, and follow-up notation(s) to confirm the child's new placement.

Parents may request that DC Prep correct records which they believe to be inaccurate or misleading. Parents may also request photocopies of their child's records, but files may not be removed from the school location where they are maintained. When requested by a parent, it may take up to 48 hours to get copies of the file(s).

DC Prep reserves the right to disclose student records without parental consent to the following parties:

- School officials (administrative or support staff) with legitimate educational interest (meaning the official needs to review an educational record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility);
- Other schools to which a student is transferring;
- Specified officials for audit or evaluation purposes;
- Organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the school;
- Accrediting organizations;
- For the purposes of directory information (defined below) with notification to parents of both what information is being shared and information on how parents can opt out;
- To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena;
- Appropriate officials in cases of health and safety emergencies; and
- State/local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to specific State law.



DC Prep considers the following to be "directory information": student's name, address, telephone listing, electronic mail address, date of birth, dates of attendance, grade level, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, degrees/honors/awards received, student ID number. If you wish to opt out of your child(ren)'s directory information being shared, please email <u>ParentDataQuestions@dcprep.org</u>.

Families may occasionally need to file a FERPA complaint regarding the organization. If that is the case, complaints of alleged violations may be addressed to:

Family Policy Compliance Office US Department of Education 400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20202-5920



# **Enrollment Procedures (Admission Preference Policy)**

The following are high-level guidelines for enrollment-related processes. If you have additional questions, please reach out to our Enrollment Team at <u>enrollment@dcprep.org</u> or 202-635-4590 ext. 200.

- **Re-enrollment:** Currently enrolled families wishing to return to their DC Prep campus for the following school year, or moving from the elementary to its associated middle campus, should **not** participate in the My School DC lottery. All re-enrollment is managed internally by DC Prep. Re-enrollment for the following academic school year will be during the month of April. If you withdraw, or your child is expelled during the academic school year, before, during, or after the re-enrollment period, you forfeit your seat for the following academic school year.
- Inter-campus transfers: DC Prep offers an inter-campus transfer preference for all currently enrolled families wishing to transfer to a different DC Prep campus (Edgewood, Benning, or Anacostia). Interested families **should** participate in the My School DC lottery application. All inter-campus transfers are managed through My School DC and are only eligible at the time of the Lottery. For more information about key 2021-22 enrollment dates, visit <u>www.myschooldc.org</u>.
- New to DC Prep Students: Students can apply to attend DC Prep via the My School DC lottery. The My School DC application launches every year in December. The lottery application deadline is in early March for Preschool through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Families who apply after the lottery deadline will be added to the school's waitlist.
- **Sibling Preference:** New to DC Prep students who have a sibling already enrolled at DC Prep will receive a preference in admission. Siblings are defined as any two students who share at least one parent as stated on their Birth Certificates or other legal documentation. Any family applying for a sibling preference will be validated and contacted with a determination of whether their preference is approved or denied. *Siblings of graduating 8th graders, siblings of students not returning, mid-year withdrawals, or expulsions do not qualify for a sibling attending preference. Siblings must be on a trajectory to attend the same school facility at the same time over the course of the siblings' DC Prep enrollment (for at least one year), in order to be eligible for the sibling preference. Due to their proximity, Edgewood Elementary and Edgewood Middle are considered the same facility. Benning Elementary and Benning Middle are considered the same facility. Anacostia Elementary and Anacostia Middle are considered separate facilities.*
- **Residency:** If you voluntarily move out of the district any time during the school year, you **must** promptly report this information to the school. In most cases, students who move out of the district are no longer eligible to attend DC Prep. In some limited circumstances, they may be eligible to continue attending if they pay out-of-state tuition. For questions regarding the out-of-state tuition process, contact the Office of the State Superintendent of Education at: <u>OSSE.Residency@dc.gov</u>

