

# Thompson Creek Elementary School

Imagine the Possibilities.

*Achievement, Engagement, Environment*

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Thompson Creek Elementary School is dedicated to providing a safe, cooperative and supportive learning environment for all students, staff and the school community. Our goal is to develop responsible, productive citizens while promoting academic excellence. We believe all members of the school community are to be treated with respect and dignity. We believe that all students must take "ownership" of their behaviour and are capable of making appropriate choices. Our goal is to foster a sense of self-worth and self-discipline in our students.

**This Code of Conduct belongs to:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_



**I have read Thompson Creek Elementary School's Code of Conduct and agree to abide by the rules and expectations clearly outlined.**

**Student's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*See page 7 for how you can help your child succeed!**

# Welcome to Thompson Creek Elementary School!

## School Hours

8:30	Buses arrive, students are let off and transfers are made
8:30 - 8:45	Morning Playground Supervision
8:50	School begins promptly at 8:50 a.m.
8:50 - 10:50	120 Minute Instructional Block (Literacy Block)
<b>10:50 - 11:30</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Nutrition Break</b> (20 inside; 20 outside)
11:30 - 1:10	100 Minute Instructional Block
<b>1:10 - 1:50</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Nutrition Break</b> (20 inside; 20 outside)
1:50 - 3:10	80 Minute Instructional Block
3:10	School and Bus Dismissal

Welcome to Thompson Creek Elementary School where we offer instruction in the Early Learning Kindergarten (ELK) program, primary (1-3), junior (grades 4 to 6) and intermediate (grades 7 & 8) divisions and one self-contained class.

This school exists for one purpose: to enable our students to become knowledgeable, self-motivated, contributing members of our society. The staff of Thompson Creek Elementary School is dedicated to this purpose. We cannot accomplish this task without your help! Not only do we need your participation, we welcome your interest and input. Volunteers are always needed at the school; please contact the office, for more information. Teachers and parents form a partnership that exists for the sole benefit of the students.

Please take the time to get to know your child's teacher, visit the school, sign tests, check notebooks and agendas, help with homework, and encourage your child to read.

In this spirit of partnership, please feel free to contact the school at any time about positive feedback or concerns that you may have.

## Agendas

These agendas provide students with an organizer for school assignments and special events as well as providing a vehicle for on-going communication between students, teachers and parents. Students will be learning the skills of time management, organization and goal setting.

## Roles and Responsibilities

The safety of others and their right to learn at school are prime considerations.

### The Role of the Students

- To attend school prepared and ready to learn
- To show respect for themselves, others and to those in authority
- To refrain from bringing anything to school that may compromise the safety of others or themselves
- To follow rules and take responsibility for their actions

### The Role of the Parents/Guardians

- To be supportive of the school and show an active interest in their child's school work and progress
- To communicate regularly with school personnel
- To provide a positive environment for learning
- To ensure their child attends school **regularly and on time**
- To report promptly to the school their child's absence or late arrival
- To become familiar with the Code of Conduct, school rules and participate in co-operative problem-solving and decision-making in dealing with disciplinary issues

### The Role of School Personnel:

- To demonstrate care and commitment to academic excellence and a safe teaching and learning environment
- To act as role models and to hold everyone to the highest standard of respectful and responsible behaviour
- To communicate regularly with all members of the school community

### Bullying Prevention

Students and staff at T.C.E.S. work actively to foster a positive, inclusive and dynamic school community. Bullying of any kind does not have a place at our school. Bullying is typically a form of repeated, persistent and intentional aggressive behaviour directed at an individual or individuals that is intended to cause (or should be known to cause) fear or distress and/or harm to another person's body, feelings, self-esteem, or reputation. Bullying occurs in a context where there is real or perceived power imbalance. Consequences will occur which may include suspensions, but will follow a **progressive discipline** approach.

## **Standards of Behaviour**

As outlined in board policy the standards of behaviour for the school community are divided into two categories:

### **A) Respect, Civility, & Responsible Citizenship**

All members of the school community must:

- Respect and comply with all applicable laws
- Demonstrate honesty and integrity
- Respect differences in people
- Treat one another with dignity and respect
- Respect and treat others fairly
- Respect the rights of others
- Show proper care/regard for school and others' property
- Take appropriate measures to help those in need
- Seek staff assistance, if necessary, to resolve conflict peacefully
- Respect all members of the school community, especially persons in positions of authority
- Respect all needs of others to work in an environment that is conducive to learning and teaching
- To use respectful language when interacting with a teacher or towards another person in a position of authority

### **B) Safety**

All members of the school community must not:

- Engage in bullying behaviours
- Commit sexual assault
- Traffic in weapons or illegal drugs
- Provide alcohol to a minor
- Commit robbery
- Be in possession of any weapons, including, but not limited to firearms
- Use any objects to threaten or intimidate another person
- Cause injury to any person with an object
- Be in possession of, or under the influence of, or provide others with, alcohol or illegal drugs
- Inflict or encourage others to inflict bodily harm on another person
- Engage in hate propaganda and other forms of hate or bias motivated behaviours
- Commit an act of vandalism that causes extensive damage to school property located on the premises of the school

### **Anaphylaxis Policy/Special Medical Problems**

Anaphylaxis is a serious allergic reaction. It can be life threatening and requires immediate first aid responses and immediate medical intervention. No food or drinks are to be eaten in the hallways or outside. According to GEDSB policy, it is the parent/guardian's responsibility to inform the School in writing that a child is at risk of anaphylaxis, or if they have a special medical problem (i.e. Asthma, Diabetes) and to outline symptoms and requested intervention. School Staff will work in conjunction with the parents, medical practitioner and student to ensure that an appropriate "Emergency Action Plan" has been put into place, and to communicate that plan to Board personnel. Please be pro-active and contact the school if you have any questions regarding the health and well-being of your child while they are at school. We will work with you to ensure their safety while in our care.

### **Medication**

A Request for School Assistance in Health Care form needs to be completed and kept on file in the office if a student requires medication at school. A staff member will supervise students taking medication. We cannot administer any medications, including over the counter, without the request form. All medication needs to be in a bottle labelled with: student's name, type of medication, and dosage specifications.

### **Dress Code**

Students and staff are expected to show good taste in selecting clothing for school. Some clothing is not suitable for the classroom and may be a distraction to others. Clothing with inappropriate messages and/or pictures are not acceptable (e.g. vulgar or offensive expressions; violent, racist or sexist references; promotion of drugs, alcohol or cigarettes).

Suitable footwear is required at all times, including indoor shoes with no black soles.

Outside hats must be removed while entering or in the school building. During the warm weather it is more comfortable to wear shorts. Wearing "cut-offs", short shorts, halter tops and other revealing clothing is not acceptable. **All** undergarments must be covered. There should be no bare midriffs (tummies), cleavage showing and no muscle shirts.

As the weather is quite changeable in the spring and fall, parents are urged to check the weather in the morning and send their child in clothing which will keep him/her warm and dry. Our playground becomes very wet and muddy during these seasons, so an extra set of clothes to change into would be a good idea. Suitable dress during winter months is most essential.

### **Inclement Weather**

Bus delays, school cancellations or early dismissal due to inclement weather will be broadcast over the radio. Listen to Hamilton, **CHML 900 AM**, **CHAM 820 AM** or **CKOC 1150 am**. Due to the size of the Grand Erie Board and the diverse weather from one area to another, the board has been divided into zones for transportation purposes. Thompson Creek Elementary School is in School **Zone #2**.

When transportation is cancelled, Thompson Creek Elementary School is closed. Please refer to your child's 'Student Information Update Form', as the order of phone calls is detailed already in case of an unexpected early closure. Please update this information as it changes. Since determining "safety" under adverse weather conditions is difficult, it is the parent's/guardian's responsibility at all times to decide whether or not it is safe for your child/ren to attend school, as you would at any other time. You may also check the Board website after 6:45 a.m. (for school closures) at

[www.granderie.ca](http://www.granderie.ca) .

## Playground Expectations

Students should enjoy fair play and be safe on the playground. Our expectations include:

- To respect and obey all staff, supervisors and monitors
- To stay within the defined play areas; no playing in the ditch
- Hands off policy, which includes not encouraging others to inflict harm on another
- No climbing on fences, trees or sports equipment is allowed
- To obtain permission before entering the school during recess breaks or lunch
- To use strategies such as Kelso or seek staff assistance, when necessary to resolve conflicts peacefully
- No throwing of snow, sticks or stones, or hardballs (not allowed at school)
- No scooters, skateboards, heelies or roller-blades on school property
- Students may ride bikes to school provided they wear helmets. Upon arrival at the school, students are to use the sidewalk on Cross Street to walk or ride their bikes to the bike racks at the front entrance of the school. Students take responsibility for their bike if they choose to ride it to school and should ensure that they have a bike lock
- To use appropriate language at all times
- Food or drink is not permitted outside. Gum is also not allowed at school.

## Bus Expectations

As a school we are stressing bus safety and appropriate behaviour. Parents should impress upon their child/ren the need for good behaviour and observance for safety precautions while riding the bus. The bus is considered an extension of the school. There is only one pick up address and one drop off address for students. Students will not be able to change buses at the end of the day as this is now board policy.

The same rules of respect and responsibility expected at the school are required while on the bus. This is a privilege. Abusing the rules posted at the front of the bus will result in consequences, which may include suspension. Progressive discipline will be used with students who fail to observe bus rules to ensure safety. The Principal has the authority and will revoke transportation privileges when a pupil fails to adhere to the designated rules of conduct. Riding the bus is a privilege, not a right. Remember, your bus driver has complete charge of the bus and students need to be compliant with the driver.

## Electronics

In order to prepare our students for the future we encourage students to adapt to the ever changing technology, without impeding on their learning here at school.

However, due to privacy laws, students are **NOT** permitted to take photos at school with their own personal devices, including cell phones, some iPods and even DS systems. If students bring any of these items to school, they are responsible for them. The use of cell phones, texting or taking pictures is prohibited at Thompson Creek Elementary School.

If your child is in the intermediate classes, they will have the option of entering into the personal device contract. This will allow students to access the internet for academic purposes and listen to music while working. These privileges can be revoked if students are not respectful of the guidelines. Students are not to share iPods; this includes using speakers.

# How Can Parents/Guardians Help at Thompson Creek E.S.?

"When we look closely at patterns of success for our students, there is ample evidence that achievement and positive school adjustment come from support and guidance of parents and those who guide the learning and attitudes of our young people."

(Council of Ontario Directors in Education- CODE)

## **School Advisory Council Meetings**

All are welcome!

- Held monthly (except for December and March)
- Check monthly calendar for meeting dates

## **Early Morning Meal/Student Nutrition Program**

- Universal student nutrition program
- Consisting of three food groups everyday
- No charge, donations are appreciated

## **How can you Volunteer? (Police Check required)**

- Hot lunches/Student Nutrition Program
- Fundraising
- Reading with children
- Strong Start - Early Literacy Intervention
- Class trips
- Special Events (i.e. Super Meet)
- School Advisory Council

"You don't have to be a volunteer to be involved in your child's education. Research shows that learning at home is one of the most beneficial ways to help your child succeed." (CODE)

**TIPS:** Show an interest.

Make every day an opportunity to learn.

Encourage your child to investigate, discover and imagine.

Work and play together.

Read with your child.

Help them find math everywhere.

**Be the change you want to see.**

Ghandi