

OSMPA Student and Parent Code of Conduct 2023-2024

The OSMPA Code of Conduct, herein known as “Code”, is put in place at the school to foster a positive and constructive learning environment for both students, parents and teachers and to preserve the freedom of expression and association at the Oakville School of Music and Performing Arts, herein known as “OSMPA”. The Code is also intended to protect the civil, personal and property rights of the OSMPA and its constituents.

The OSMPA depends upon adherence of all students and their parent or guardian to high standards of academic behavior. Any form of cheating, plagiarism, misbehavior, and harassment is a violation against the Code. As well, the failure to take constructive action in the event of committing or observing a violation or apparent violation is a breach against the Code.

When students and parents attend the OSMPA, they accept the rights and responsibilities of membership into the OSMPA’s academic and social community. As members of the community, both students and parents are expected to uphold its values by maintaining a high standard of conduct.

1.1 Parent and Student Behavior

Student and parent misconduct is defined as any student or parent behavior that violates rules of the OSMPA Code.

The OSMPA considers the following behavior, or attempt thereof, by any student or parent, whether acting along or with any other persons, to have violated the Code of Conduct:

- Conduct that disrupts the course of regular lessons, workshops, academic programming, tutoring, teaching, examination delivery or meetings
- Damage, misuse, theft, vandalism, of OSMPA property or other person’s property at the school
- The unauthorized entry into any facility, classroom or offices at the OSMPA
- Written and/or verbal communication and statements that are considered abusive towards any member of the OSMPA community not limited to: administration, parents, students, teachers and or facility personnel.
- Any form of academic dishonesty including cheating, plagiarizing, fabrication, deception, bribery or sabotage.
- Solicitation of OSMPA faculty to provide teaching services beyond the services they provide on behalf of the OSMPA.
- Unauthorized recordings of other students, parents, teachers or administration, not limited to audio and video, of any class or program at the OSMPA. Any filming/video recording on OSMPA property is not permitted without prior approval from the appropriate OSMPA administrator.

1.2 Harassment Policy

The OSMPA is committed to providing an environment for all teachers, parents and students that is free from any form of harassment. Harassment for the Code at OSMPA is defined as any improper behavior that is directed at and offensive to any teacher or student.

Any physical or verbal, oral or written, electronic (i.e. text, social media, email etc.) coercion or any other conduct that by design, whether intended or reckless places another individual(s) in reasonable fear of physical or emotional harm through words or actions directed at that person, is beyond the bounds of protected free speech. As well, any comments or conduct that demean, humiliate, or embarrass an individual and which are made on the basis of age, race, gender identity or expression, place of origin, color, citizenship, marital status, family status, disability or any other forms of derogatory comments.

Any of the following examples of inappropriate behaviour and are considered sexual harassment:

- Unwanted touching or sexual assault or battery
- Unwelcome inquiries or comments, communications with sexual overtones that cause embarrassment or humiliation
- Sexually suggestive comments or behavior, advances or propositions
- Persistent and unwanted contact or attention
- Verbal abuse or threats
- Violent or threatening behavior toward another member of the OSMPA community, stalking, harassment, or similar forms of intimidation
- Conduct that poses a genuine danger and safety and well-being of another person

Investigations: When the OSMPA administrative office becomes aware of a possible violation of the Personal Conduct Policy, it will undertake an investigation, the timing and scope of which will be based upon the particular circumstances of the matter. OSMPA disciplinary committee has the option to suspend a student and/or family from attending programming in the duration that an investigation is taking place.

1.3 Drug, Alcohol and Criminal Activity Policy

The OSMPA does not tolerate the illegal or abusive use of drugs or alcohol on the school premises, at place of instruction or at any OSMPA events. All parents, faculty and students are expected to maintain the highest levels of professional conduct to maintain a drug-free school and workplace.

1.4 Student Misconduct Policy and Processes

Student misconduct is defined here as any conduct which, in the opinion of an instructor, program coordinator, proctor, supervisor, or administrator, causes or is likely to cause:

- Harm to any person
- Threat to the safety or well-being of any person
- Damage or threatened damage to school property

- Disruption or threat of disruption to a course, teaching, programming, administration or meeting
If students are found to have violated or likely to violate the misconduct that is identified by an instructor, teacher, coordinator, or supervisor, the above mentioned individuals have the right to immediately remove the student from the class, course, program or activity. The instructor, teacher, coordinator or supervisor may take other measures they feel appropriate in the circumstance.

Any measures taken through the processes of the Student Misconduct Policy may be varied and do not preclude further consequences under this policy.

Failure by a student to comply with the above policies is considered a violation of the Code and such failure may itself be subject to consequences.

1.5 Consequences of Misconduct

Consequences of misconduct include, but are not limited to, the following measures, which may be taken singly or in combination:

- Warning
- Probation for a period of time or indefinitely
- Exclusion from a class, course, or program
- Cancellation of registration
- Suspension for a period of time
- Legal prosecution

No refunds are provided for any suspension or probation from academic programming.

1.6 Disciplinary Probation

Students in violation of the Student Code of Conduct or registration policies may be placed on Disciplinary Probation at any time.

1.7 Dismissal

Grounds for dismissal include any form of violation of the Code by students as outlined in this document. The OSMPA has the right to terminate the registration and/or enrollment if the school feels the student is creating an environment that is detrimental to the interests of the OSMPA.

Parents in violation of the Code or administrative policies may be required to withdraw their student(s) from the school.