

SYDENHAM HIGH SCHOOL

“Home of the Golden Eagles”



2860 Rutledge Road, PO Box 266
Sydenham, Ontario K0H 2T0
Main Office: (613) 376-3612
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Attendance: 1-855-257-9349

STUDENT HANDBOOK 2024 - 2025

Principal: Ms. Molly Slate
Vice Principal: Ms. Kristin Stevens (Grades 10 and 12)
Vice Principal: Ms. Ash Ward (Grades 9 and 11)
Office Manager: Mrs. Sandra Sands
Head Custodian: Mr. Rick Inwood
Trustee: Ms. Suzanne Ruttan

E-Mail : sydhhs@limestone.on.ca
Twitter: @SydenhamHS_LDSB
Website: <http://sydenhamhs.limestone.on.ca>
Attendance: School Messenger Website <http://go.schoolmessenger.ca>
Toll-free telephone 1-888-257-9349 or (613) 376-3612 (daytime only)

DAILY TIMETABLE

Slot A 8:20 - 9:35
Break 9:35 - 9:45
Slot B 9:45 - 11:00
Break: 11:00 - 11:15
Slot C 11:15 - 12:30
Lunch 12:30 - 1:20
Slot D 1:20 - 2:35

OUR VISION

Providing innovative learning opportunities for all students

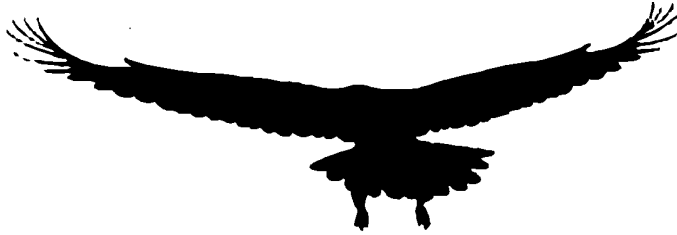
OUR MISSION STATEMENT

At Sydenham we foster a safe and inclusive community which celebrates spirit, tradition, and success for all.

Sydenham High School lives its motto of “**Spirit, Heritage and Success**”. Every individual is an important, contributing member of our school community.

- Our **Spirit** comes from the incredible enthusiasm generated by the students and staff towards all school activities.
- Our **Heritage** is the tradition of excellence in academics, and a positive learning environment that is shared between staff and students.
- Our **Success** comes from the dedication, perseverance, hard work, and commitment to excellence that students and staff contribute to classroom and extra-curricular activities.





Live W.E.L.L.
Work. Exercise. Love. Learn.

LIVE

Work
Exercise
Love
Learn

The SHS Live W.E.L.L. initiative began in the Spring of 2014. The Wellness team envisioned Sydenham High School as a place where students and staff are always encouraged to lead healthy and active lifestyles. Throughout the year there are opportunities for staff and students to be physically active, to learn about the importance of physical activity and nutrition, and to engage in activities that promote both mental and physical wellness.

Some examples of Live W.E.L.L. activities may include Food Share Breakfast & lunch program, Terry Fox Walk/Run, Jingle Bell Run, May Marathon, Beat the Band, and Jack.org student led activities.

STUDENTS' COUNCIL 2024 - 2025

Students' Council is an inclusive model. All students interested in enhancing school life are encouraged to join Leadership positions as determined by the Students' Council group. Student Council plans events such as dances, May Carnival, fundraising for the community, and represents student voice.

Staff Advisor(s): Ms. Plumb,

STUDENT ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Recreational Leadership

Students in the recreational leadership course (Gr. 11/12) help plan, and organize recreational events and other activities related to healthy, active living.

Staff Advisor: Mr. English

SYDENHAM HIGH SCHOOL

2024 - 2025 CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

The Sydenham High School code of behaviour sets out the standards of behaviour which are expected of all members of our school community to create a positive climate in the school. Respect, responsibility, civility, safety, bullying prevention and academic excellence are promoted so that all members of our school community will feel safe, comfortable, and accepted. A positive school climate is necessary to support an inclusive, responsive learning environment for all students and to maximize student success. The “Whole School Approach” including parents, students, staff, and community partners is critical to promote a positive school climate. The purpose of our code of behaviour is to:

- ensure that all members of our school community are treated with respect and dignity
- promote responsible citizenship by encouraging appropriate participation in the civic life of the school community
- maintain an environment where conflict and difference can be addressed in a manner characterized by respect and civility
- encourage the use of non-violent means to resolve conflict
- ensure the safety of all members of the school community
- discourage the use of alcohol and drugs

Everyone is to be treated with respect and dignity. In return, they must demonstrate respect for themselves, for others and for the responsibilities of citizenship through acceptable behaviour. Respect and responsibility are demonstrated when a student comes to school prepared, on time, and ready to learn; shows respect for themselves, for others and for those in authority; refrains from bringing anything to school that may compromise the safety of others; and follows the established rules and takes responsibility for their own actions. Students are to comply with the behaviour expectations while at school, at school-related activities or in other circumstances where engaging in the activity will have an impact on the school climate.

CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

Respect	
Expected Behaviour	Reasons for Expected Behaviour
• respect differences in people, their ideas, and their opinions • respect all members of our school community • Always treat one another with dignity and respect, and especially when there is a disagreement • respect and treat others fairly, regardless of race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, religion, gender, sexual orientation, body image, age, or disability • respect the rights of others • respect self, building and others • not use inappropriate language (i.e., swearing, racist or homophobic remarks) toward any individual • LDSB prohibits the use of the N-word in its unabbreviated form, verbal or written, and any variation of, on LDSB property by any member of the LDSB community	All members of our school community have the right to: • be treated with respect and dignity • an environment where conflict and differences can be addressed in a manner characterized by respect and civility • have a right to the use of non-violent means to resolve conflict • an environment conducive to learning • be treated with dignity and courtesy as conduct injurious to the mental and physical well-being of others is not conducive to school morale. • understand that effective expression in correct and tasteful language is a personal skill of great value in all aspects of your life. When language is offensive to others, hard feelings are often generated which may lead to further unacceptable conflict.

Your human rights are legally protected ✨

The **Ontario Human Rights Code** is the human rights law in Ontario. You are legally protected from discrimination based on any of these grounds and have a right to an environment free from discrimination.



If you believe your human rights or someone else's have been violated



Submit a human rights incident or complaint by using the **Student Human Rights Incidents and Complaints** form or by talking to your teacher, Principal, Vice-Principal, or any LDSB employee.

CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

Civility and Responsible Citizenship

Expected Behaviour

- demonstrate honesty and integrity
- participate appropriately in the civic life of the school community
- seek assistance from a member of the Sydenham High School staff, if necessary, to resolve conflict peacefully
- show proper care and regard for school property and the property of others
- comply with health and safety regulations regarding smoking, and vaping
- comply with LDSB bus regulations while travelling on the bus to and from school (i.e., appropriate language and behaviour)
- comply with all regulations surrounding the use of school owned lockers
- SHS has a 'no student visitor' policy. Students from other schools wishing to tour SHS should contact Students Services.
- gambling is not permitted (students are permitted to play card games during their free periods)
- comply with reasonable requests and instructions from all staff members
- comply with the school's electronic devices policy
- not be in the halls during spare or free periods
- respect and comply with all applicable federal, provincial, and municipal laws

Reasons for Expected Behaviour

Responsible citizenship involves:

- appropriate participation in the civic life of the school community. Active and engaged citizens are aware of their rights, but more importantly, they accept responsibility for protecting their rights and the rights of others.
- taking care of our school buildings, furniture, and supplies
- a learning environment free from the influences of drugs and alcohol
- understanding that the costs associated with vandalism and theft are an additional financial burden to students, their parents/guardians, and other taxpayers
- understanding that staff of your school have been given responsibility by your parents, through the school board, for creating a pleasant atmosphere for you to learn in while at school. They have been given the authority to make reasonable demands to ensure the public expectations are met, both in the classroom and all other areas of the school.

CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

Academic Excellence	
Expected Behaviour	Reasons for Expected Behaviour
Each student is expected to maintain good work habits by: • completing all homework, assignments, and projects as directed by the required deadline • coming to class prepared and ready to participate (with the necessary books, pens, calculators, gym wear etc., as appropriate) • participating constructively in class • seeking academic, social, or emotional assistance where needed • complete all summative work	• students who are engaged in the learning process are more successful • good work habits learned and practised in school will be valuable throughout life • Due dates are designed to help ensure that you are successful and that you complete all course requirements • Credits will only be granted once all summative assessment tasks have been submitted.
Each student is expected to maintain regular attendance by: • being punctual and prepared (arrive on time to each class with appropriate materials for that class) • notify the school in case of absences and late arrivals (in advance if possible)	• good attendance helps you achieve goals and benefit from all school activities and services • arriving late interrupts the learning of others
Each student is expected to maintain academic integrity by: • submitting work which represents your own efforts and acknowledges the source of information used in completing your work • citing another person's ideas or opinions and including references to give credit for sources of information used	• students have the right and responsibility to be assessed and evaluated on their own work

Breach of Academic Honesty

Breaches of academic honesty are intentional attempts to gain credit for work that is not your own. For intentional cases where you have submitted work that is clearly not your own, including the use of Artificial Intelligence, your Teacher will speak to you and the following steps will apply:

Initial Breach of Academic Honesty

- ☐ your Teacher will provide documentation of occurrence to your Principal
- ☐ your breach of academic honesty will be put on file in the Main Office
- ☐ you will be asked to take part in a conference called by your Principal, Vice Principal or Assistant Vice Principal with your Teacher and parent / guardian
- ☐ you will be provided with counseling and / or academic assistance
- ☐ you will be required to complete the summative assessment task, or an alternative summative assessment task as determined by your Teacher

Subsequent Breach of Academic Honesty

- ☐ your Teacher will provide documentation of the occurrence to your Principal
- ☐ your breach of academic honesty will be put on file in the Main Office
- ☐ you will be asked to take part in a conference called by your Principal, Vice Principal or Assistant Vice Principal with your Teacher and parent / guardian
- ☐ you will be provided with counseling and / or academic assistance
- ☐ you will complete a compensatory task (e.g., report writing on ethics)
- ☐ you will serve a suspension
- ☐ you will be required to complete the summative assessment task, or an alternative summative assessment task as determined by your Teacher

Repeated Breaches of Academic Honesty

- ☐ your Teacher will provide documentation of occurrence to your Principal
- ☐ your breach of academic honesty will be put on file in the Main Office
- ☐ you will be asked to take part in a conference called by your Principal, Vice Principal or Assistant Vice Principal with your Teacher and parent / guardian
- ☐ you will serve a suspension
- ☐ you may be withdrawn from the course

CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

Safety	
Expected Behaviour	Reasons for Expected Behaviour
All members of the Sydenham High School community must not: • loiter in the washroom, stairways, halls or near doorways • loiter in vehicles in the school parking areas • obstruct hallways or thoroughfares • use electronic forums in an inappropriate manner (i.e., Internet use at school, website creation, online games, email, blogs, chat rooms, cell phones, pagers, and text messaging) in accordance with LDSB Computer Use Policy. • take or post photographic images or videos of any person(s) on school property without the consent of that person and the Principal • be in possession of any weapon (or replica), including but not limited to, knives, firearms • engage in activities which would intimidate or threaten another person • commit an act of vandalism that causes extensive damage to school property or to property located on the premises of the school Please see Suspension and Expulsion list which is outlined in this document for further Code of Behaviour expectations.	• All members of our school community have the right to be safe and to feel safe in their school community. • Fighting never solves issues. The expectation is that our school is a safe place for everyone, and students are expected to show responsibility and self-control.

CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

Bullying Awareness, Prevention, and Intervention

Bullying has a negative impact no matter where it has or is taking place. It will not be accepted on school property, at school-related activities, on school buses, or in any other circumstances (e.g., online) where engaging in bullying will have a negative impact on the school climate.

We are all responsible for identifying bullying behaviour and find appropriate tools to respond and to stop it from happening as part of our awareness and prevention strategies.

Bullying is typically a form of repeated, persistent, and aggressive behaviour directed at another person that is intended to cause (or should be known to cause) fear, distress and / or harm to that person's body, feelings, self-esteem, or reputation. Bullying occurs when there is a real or perceived imbalance of power. Bullying can be physical, verbal, social, or occur through electronic (online) communication.

If someone experiences or observes bullying behaviour, they are expected to report it to your parent / guardian, a Teacher, educational assistant, or school administrator immediately. Bullying behaviour will be addressed using a progressive discipline approach with a range of interventions and consequences. Supports include our ACW, Maltby Centre, Youth Diversion and mediation. When necessary, police involvement can occur.

	Mean Behaviour	Peer Conflict	Bullying
Is Behaviour reciprocated?	Usually. The behaviour is back and forth.	No. There is only one aggressor.	Never. An individual or group is targeting the victim.
Are both people having fun?	Usually. Behaviour starts out as fun until there is an unplanned change.	No. Both individuals are upset.	No. One individual is being harmed.
Has this behaviour happened before?	Sometimes. It occurs when things are familiar.	Maybe, but usually this is a one-time event.	Yes. The behaviour toward an individual is repeated.
Is there an imbalance of power?	No. Individuals have equal power.	No. Individuals or groups have equal power.	Yes. The bully is more powerful than the victim.

CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

Progressive Discipline and Consequences for Inappropriate Behaviour

The school encourages, supports, and recognizes acceptable behaviour in our students through a variety of positive practices. Progressive discipline is an approach that makes use of a continuum of interventions, supports and consequences, building upon strategies which promote positive behaviours.

We encourage students to take responsibility for their behaviour and to accept the consequences of their actions. A progressive discipline approach will be used to deal with inappropriate behaviour. This may include oral reminders, review of expectations, contact with parent(s) / guardians(s), written reflection, volunteer services in the school community, conflict mediation and resolution, peer mentoring, and / or referral for support services.

We recognize that each student is a unique individual and that every situation that requires disciplinary action has its own set of extenuating circumstances. All factors that may have affected the student's behaviour will be considered before progressive discipline is applied. Students who behave inappropriately will receive an age and developmentally appropriate consequence. For a student with special education or disability-related needs, all progressive discipline approaches will be consistent with their Individual Education Plan and demonstrated abilities.

As part of progressive discipline, the school may also use suspension and / or expulsion for serious incidents as outlined in the Limestone District School Board's Safe Schools Policy. Before considering whether to impose a suspension or make a recommendation for an expulsion, a Principal must consider mitigating and other factors.

Suspension and Expulsion

A Principal or Vice Principal shall consider whether to suspend a pupil if they believe that the pupil has engaged in any of the following activities while at school, at a school-related activity or in other circumstances where engaging in the activity will have an impact on the school climate:

- Uttering a threat to inflict serious bodily harm on another person
- Possessing alcohol, illegal drugs, or recreational marijuana
- Being under the influence of alcohol
- Being under the influence of drugs or recreational marijuana
- Swearing at a Teacher or at another person in a position of authority
- Committing an act of vandalism that causes extensive damage to school property at the pupil's school or to property located on the premises of the pupil's school
- Engaging in another activity that, under a policy/ procedure of the Board, is one for which a suspension may be considered – specify
- Any other activity that is an activity for which a Principal may suspend a pupil under a policy of the Board 2007, 2007, c. 14, s.4.
- Discriminating against another person's race, sexuality, or religion
- Persistent Truancy
- Opposition to authority, Board, and school policy
- Habitual neglect of duty, Board, and school policy
- The willful destruction of school property
- Conduct injurious to the moral tone of the school or to the physical or mental well-being of others in the school
- Smoking/Vaping on school property
- Bullying
- Medical/immunization
- Profanity/swearing, Board and school policy
- Fighting/violence, Board, and school policy

For the following incidents, the Principal will suspend and will also consider recommending to the Board's Discipline Committee that a student be expelled:

- Possessing a weapon, including possessing a firearm
- Using a weapon to cause or to threaten bodily harm to another person
- Committing physical assault on another person that causes bodily harm requiring treatment by a medical practitioner
- Committing sexual assault
- Trafficking in weapons or in illegal drugs
- Committing robbery
- Bullying, if, the pupil has previously been suspended for engaging in bullying, AND the pupil's continuing presence in the school creates an unacceptable risk to the safety of another person
- Any activity listed in subsection 306(1) that is motivated by bias, prejudice or hate based on race, national or ethnic origin, language, colour, religion, sex, age, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or any other similar factor
- Giving alcohol to a minor
- Giving drugs or recreational marijuana to a minor
- Behaviour is so refractory that the pupil's presence is injurious to the effective learning and /or working environment of others
- The student has engaged in activities that cause the student's continuing presence in the school to be injurious to the physical or mental well-being of others in the school
- The student has engaged in activities that cause extensive damage to Board property or to goods that are on school Board property
- The student has demonstrated through a pattern of behaviour that he/she has not prospered by the instruction available to him/her and that he/she is persistently resistant to making the changes in behaviour which would enable him/her to prosper
- Any other activity that under a policy of a Board, is an activity for which a Principal must suspend a pupil and, therefore in accordance with this part, conduct an investigation to determine whether to recommend to the Board that the pupil be 2007, c. 14, s. 4; 2012, c. 5, s. 14.

Safe Schools

Building Positive Places to Grow and Learn Together. What You Need to Know

As part of the Safe Schools requirements for schools and the amended Threat Assessment Protocols for the Limestone District School Board, this is information in a condensed form to give you an overview of the efforts made to provide the safe and inclusive education opportunities our students deserve. It is important for all students and parents to be aware of these school safety procedures.

All schools have established procedures for Shelter in Place, Hold & Secure, Lockdown, and Evacuation. Staff and students will be trained in how to implement the procedures. As with fire drills, lockdown drills, bomb threat drills and first aid drills will be held without the prior awareness of students and / or staff.

Threats to School Safety

To facilitate common understanding among all community partners, school boards across Ontario, police services, Emergency Medical Services, and fire safety officials are using the following terminology:

- **Shelter in Place** - used for an environmental or weather-related situation where it is necessary to keep all occupants within the school (protecting them from an external situation) Examples: chemical spills, blackouts, explosions, or extreme weather.
- **Hold and Secure** - used when it is desirable to secure the school due to an ongoing situation outside but not related to the school Example: Bank robbery occurring near a school but not on property. School functions normally with exterior doors locked until the situation is resolved.
- **Lockdown** - used only when there is a major incident or threat of school violence within the school. Overuse or misuse of this high level might result in not taking the lockdown seriously, so please note that two lockdown drills for each school year will occur.
- **Evacuation** - used if students and staff must leave a school building due to some environmental concern in the school. Example: gas leak in the school or fire. If there is severe weather outside students may be directed locally to Loughborough Public School, Sydenham Public Library or South Frontenac Town Hall.

Sydenham High School Policies

CELL PHONE and Electronic Communication Devices Policy

Student Expected Behaviour:

For 2024-2025 school year, the Ministry of Education has directed that every school will have uniform policy to have cellphones on silent and removed from sight at the beginning of instructional time unless permission is given by the classroom teacher.

Parents are expected to encourage students to follow respectful choices around cell phone use and are reminded to avoid texting/calling their child during class time and to contact the office if an emergency situation arises so school staff can support and assist.

Reasons:

Class should not be interrupted for students to make or receive communication on a personal device. It is an unnecessary distraction that detracts from the learning environment. Students bringing personal cell phones to and from school may use them during breaks and during the lunch hour.

Consequences:

Misuse of electronic communication devices will result in progressive discipline. The student will first be given a reminder by the classroom teacher to turn-off and put away the device. If the student does not comply or continues to use the phone, the office will be notified and an administrator will attend the classroom and follow up with the student. If cell phone use is a persistent problem, the cell phone or electronic device may be stored in the school vault in a secure location. Repeat offenders will be referred to a Vice Principal and may result in loss of cell phone privileges or further disciplinary action.

Refer to [AP 351](#): The Use of Electronic Communication, Social Media, and Mobile Devices by Students

USE OF ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

Expected Behaviour:

Drugs and alcohol are detrimental to your health and the learning process. Possession or use of any non-prescription drugs, prescription drugs not prescribed to you, or alcohol is forbidden during school hours or on school property at any time. The Limestone District School Board (LDSB) works in conjunction with Kingston Police / O.P.P. to be sure that school environments are drug free. Anti-drug initiatives may be utilized to assist in this goal.

Reasons:

Using, possessing or being under the influence of drugs, recreational marijuana, or alcohol at school or during school activities violates the policy of the LDSB which aims to protect all students.

Consequences:

You will be dealt with according to the requirements of the law, and the policies of the LDSB.

SMOKING/ VAPING /CANNIBIS PRODUCTS

Expected Behaviour:

The LDSB believes that a smoke/vape/tobacco-free environment is desirable for its students and all employees.

Reasons:

Smoking, vaping, or using any other tobacco products constitutes a serious hazard to your health and the school does not condone its use.

Consequences:

There is NO smoking, vaping, or use of tobacco products within 20 meters of school property. This includes the use of tobacco or cannabis products. This Ontario regulation called “SMOKE-FREE ONTARIO ACT 2017” is governed by the Kingston Frontenac Lennox and Addington Health Unit (KFL&A Health Unit) Tobacco and Cannabis Enforcement Officer. The Officer can come to the school at any time and issue a ticket for smoking or vaping within 20 meters of school property. Smoking or Vaping on school property may also result in a suspension. Repeat offences could result in suspensions of increased length. The fine for smoking, vaping, or holding a lighted cigarette or e-cigarette on property is \$305.00.

ATTENDANCE

Expectations:

Studies have demonstrated that there is a very strong relationship between school attendance and academic success. Attendance is taken during each class. The attendance secretary is responsible for the reporting around the documentation of absences and will inform administration of any concerns. Under Ministry Regulation, irregular attendance patterns may result in a student being referred to the board’s attendance counsellor and / or withdrawn from SHS.

You are expected to arrive at school and at class on time. Punctuality is a form of courtesy towards the Teacher and your classmates. Punctuality is a learned skill in making good use of your time at home, at school, and at your place of work. On some occasions lateness is unavoidable and may be excused. However, if repetitive lateness appears to be becoming a problem, the lateness may be treated as a discipline problem. Your Teacher and / or Administrator may call home or take further progressive discipline action.

Signing In	Report to the attendance Window to sign in with the attendance secretary. If you are under 18, then you need a reason from a parent /guardian.
Signing Out	If you leave the school during regular school hours, you must sign out at the attendance Window. A note, signed by a parent / guardian, should state the date, the time you must leave and the reason for signing out. If you return to school before classes end, you must sign in at the attendance desk. If you wish to be excused for an emergency or illness and do not have a note, you must report to the attendance desk where a telephone call can be made to contact your parent / guardian.

Absent The Attendance Number at SHS is 1-855-257-9349	If you know you will be away ahead of time, please inform your Teachers and have your parent / guardian call the school. If you are going to be absent, have your parent / guardian phone the school prior to the beginning of the day. If you are 18 or older, you should contact the school. If your parent / guardian is unable to contact the school by phone, upon your return you need to bring a dated note, signed by a parent / guardian, to the attendance secretary. If you are going to be absent for an extended period (i.e., extended holiday) parent / guardian contact the attendance secretary at the school (ext. 300). We have a form that will facilitate informing your teachers/admin.
Late for Class	When you arrive late to school - go directly to the main office to sign in. Have a parent use School Messenger or bring a note from home if you know in advance that you will be late. The office staff will help you. Accurate attendance keeping is a Ministry requirement. Frequent lates may result in a detention.
Ill or Injured	If you feel ill and cannot be in class, you must report to the Main Office. Your parents will be called. If you cannot go home, you will be helped by the office staff and asked to remain in the isolation room in the Main Office. If you are injured, please report to the Main Office, or seek help from a staff member. All accidents must be reported to the Main Office, and an accident report must be completed.
Change of Address or Telephone Number	If an emergency arises, we will need to contact your parent / guardian. To do this, we need accurate personal information: address, home phone number, work phone number, and an emergency contact. If any of these change during the school year, you must provide the Main Office with the up-dated information.
Asked to Leave Class	If you are asked to leave class, you are to report directly to the Main Office where you may be asked to fill out an incident report and remain in the Office until the Vice Principal or Principal can see you.

RIDING ON BUSES

Expected Behaviour:

Transportation is a privilege provided to all students of SHS where necessary. Students are required to ride on their assigned buses. All school expectations of student behaviour also apply to students when they are riding on the bus.

Consequences:

Behavioural infractions on the bus will result in school consequences that could include removal of the privilege of riding the bus. If students anticipate riding another bus, they are to bring a note from a parent / guardian which is to be signed by the Office Staff before getting on the bus. Please come to the office in the morning or at lunch if you require bus note.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS AND CYBERSAFETY

Expected Behaviour:

You are expected to use school Information Technology Systems (ITS) - computers, networks in accordance with the LDSB Computers Use Policy. Please avoid food/drinks around computers. It should be noted that computer use is also monitored electronically.

Reasons:

The misuse of computers and electronic networks can infringe on the rights of others, and result in significant consequences (e.g. replacement cost or loss of privileges) or charges for illegal activity.

Consequences:

If you use any part of a school information technology system in an unacceptable way, you will be referred to a Vice Principal, your parents/guardians notified, your ITS use privileges may be taken away and you may be suspended.

STUDENTS ON STUDY PERIOD (SPARE)

These students are to report to the cafeteria or the library and are not to be in the halls or loitering outside the school (i.e., in school parking lot). Students are not permitted to sit in parked vehicles during class time.

LOCKERS

You will be assigned a locker and lock which is school property. The locker should be kept clean and in good condition. The locker and lock are being loaned to you, and the school has the right to access all lockers and/or withdraw locker privileges if necessary. Remember that items such as alcohol, drugs, weapons, or substances which threaten health or safety are prohibited on school property including lockers. If there is suspicion that a locker contains any of these items, it will be opened and searched. **It is also important that students occupy the lockers assigned to them, as they will be responsible for items found in those lockers.** Do not use a locker that has not been assigned to you. Non-school locks that have been placed on lockers will be cut off, and the contents of the locker removed. Please don't share your locker combination with anyone.

We hope that you will take pride in keeping your locker in good condition. When lockers are open, their contents are on display to everyone. Students are not to post pictures or slogans that are inappropriate or of bad taste. You may be asked to remove material and repeated offences will be dealt with more severely. Graffiti which is written or scratched into lockers are acts of vandalism and will be treated accordingly. **The school is not responsible for lost or stolen goods.** Please do not store valuable items or cash in lockers.

SCHOOL VISITORS

Any visitors to our school are required to check in at the main office. Students from other schools are not permitted to visit during the school day unless prior permission has been obtained from an administrator.

GAMBLING

Students are permitted to play card games during study periods or during breaks. However, gambling is not permitted.

CLOTHING GUIDELINES

School is a professional setting where we strive to create an inclusive environment that feels welcoming to a diverse group of students and is a safe and respectful learning environment. Students have the right to express themselves, feel comfortable in what they wear, and have the freedom to make dress choices. Student dress must conform with established health and safety requirements for the intended activity. Students may wear tops, bottoms, and headwear or head covering that they choose while meeting the following requirements:

- Must wear a top and bottom layer of clothing of opaque material that covers the groin, buttocks, and mid-chest (breast and nipple area)
- Cannot wear underwear as outerwear, excluding sports bras which are athletic wear
- Cannot wear anything that promotes or includes discriminatory content, depicts, or displays hate speech targeting groups based on race (e.g., the Confederate flag), ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation, or any protected grounds
- Cannot wear anything that promotes or symbolizes drugs, alcohol, illegal activity, profanity, or pornography, and/or that incites violence or harassment, and/or threatens health and safety

STUDENT PARKING

Student parking at Sydenham High School is on a first-come first-served basis in the north parking lot directly behind the school. There are no “reserved” parking spots. Students using the parking facilities are expected to accept the following rules which includes but is not limited to:

- No loitering in parked vehicles.
- No smoking/vaping in vehicles on school property or within 20 meters of school property
- students must obey all traffic signs related to the lot
- **no right turns out of the parking lot onto Wheatley St. between 2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. (bus loading)**

ATHLETICS CODE OF CONDUCT

All students at Sydenham High School are expected to follow the school's Code of Conduct. In addition, the following guidelines have been outlined for members of SHS sports teams.

- ✓ Sydenham H.S. athletes should strive to understand that winning is desirable but to win at any costs defeats the PURPOSE of the game.
- ✓ All athletes should exhibit the qualities of good SPORTSMANSHIP, dedication, pride, team spirit and leadership.
- ✓ The athlete should show RESPECT for all participants, fellow competitors, officials, coaches, spectators, and self.
- ✓ The athlete should strive to gain a good knowledge and understanding of the RULES of the game.
- ✓ When visiting another school, athletes should behave appropriately and have respect for the students, staff, and the building of that school.

The consumption of any ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE by competitors or spectators at any time during an athletic event or championship is inconsistent with the goals of education and school sport and is expressly forbidden. It is a violation of school and board policy and consequences consistent with the school's code of conduct will be applied.

DRUGS, other than those prescribed by a medical doctor for a specific competitor, are expressly forbidden to be taken by competing athletes. It is a violation of school and board policy and consequences consistent with the school's code of conduct will be applied.

The athlete should understand the VALUES derived from playing the game fairly without fighting or the use of inappropriate language.

SHS is a member of the KASSAA, EOSSAA, and OFSAA leagues and is bound by their rules and regulations (available through each website).

Regular school ATTENDANCE is expected for all students who participate on a SHS Sports team. All student athletes must be a full-time student (minimum 3 courses in the semester which they are competing).

STUDENT SERVICES

WHERE TO TURN?

Do you have questions or concerns? Don't know where to turn? Then the Student Services Team may be of help. The SHS Student Support Team consists of a team of Guidance Counsellors, Learning Program Support Teachers, Student Success Teachers, Educational Assistants, an Adolescent Care Worker and Teachers of Career Education and Leadership and Peer Support. We look forward to working with students and parents. Please feel free to contact our Student Support Team Secretary at 376-3612 ext. 308 or visit our website at http://sydenhamhs.limestone.on.ca/Student_Services

Guidance Counsellors, Learning Program Support, and Student Success

Provide support for students throughout their high school years in a variety of areas such as career education, transition to high school, transition to post-secondary, short term counselling and academic support.

Adolescent Care Worker

Provides support for all students dealing with personal, peer, family, and behaviour concerns.

Social Worker

Provide crisis intervention support and one-to-one counselling in the areas of mental health, substance abuse, trauma, social determinants of health, etc.

Educational Assistants

Work with student in classes as well through withdrawal support to provide additional academic assistance where needed.

KAIROS Worker

Provides counselling, consultation and education with alcohol or other drugs and other addictive behaviour problems.

Maltby Center Child Mental Health Worker

Provides counselling, consultation, and education with behavioural, emotional, and social issues.

Food Share

On day one, "grab and go" free food is available to all students in the cafeteria at the cooler next to the vending machines. Food for a fee is available through the front of the cafeteria once open (TBA). Staff and students of the Hospitality and Tourism Specialist High Skills Major program run both programs.

Course Selection

Refer to our website or student services for a copy of our course calendar. It provides information on courses offered at SHS, awards (e.g. honour roll, Ontario Scholar) and Graduation Requirements.

CHILDREN IN NEED OF PROTECTION

For Children's Aid Societies, the definition of a child in need of protection because of suspected child abuse or neglect has been expanded. For the school system, every person who has reason to believe that a child is or may be abused or neglected must report his/her suspicions immediately to the Children's Aid Society. The Limestone District School Board is fully committed to supporting staff in meeting the legal requirements of the act.

This law means that:

- School staff do not have a choice if they suspect that a student is or may be in need of protection. They **MUST** report their suspicions to the Children's Aid Society.
- When staff report concerns to Children's Aid, they must also share with Children's Aid any information about the concern which might otherwise be confidential.
- It is not the school's responsibility to investigate suspicions, evaluate the situation, or assign blame.

Library Commons

Reading, writing, or researching *welcome* to the world of the Library at SHS. Whether your goal is information or producing report of every kind, you'll find solutions right here. And if you should be in doubt, just shout: the excellent resource staff can help you find it, make sense of it, and make it work for you. Check out our website at <http://sydenhamhs.limestone.on.ca/Library/>

