

Abbotsford Traditional School

Parent Handbook 2023-2024



Mission:

Abbotsford Traditional School is a school of choice, which along with a strong partnership with parents, is committed to the overall development of our students, emphasizing our core values of respect, responsibility, integrity, empathy, courage, and service.

Vision:

We strive to be a vibrant community of life-long learners, demonstrating shared values, building positive relationships, and celebrating our achievements.

Traditional Tenet #4:

Students, educators, families, and the community are partners in student success.

2272 Windsor Street, Abbotsford, B.C. V2T 6M1

Telephone: (604) 850-7029 Fax: (604) 850-7692

Website: <http://ATMS.abbyschools.ca>

A Message From Our Administrator

On behalf of all of us at ATS I am happy to welcome you to another school year. We are an energetic staff that enjoys working with adolescents, knows how to involve families, and strives to set high levels of achievement while making school engaging. Our hope is to be innovative in a traditional, conservative and safe setting. We especially greet those students who are new to ATS this year. We are pleased to have you and your parents in our learning community. You are in good hands at ATS.

Our teachers have high expectations for student behaviour and model good character. Added to all of this, I believe that our student uniform and closed campus policy make ATS one of the safest schools in the district. Students remain on site for the entire day and are instantly recognizable because they always wear our crest.

As a school of choice we expect and have come to appreciate the support and investment of the parent community in the values and practices of the traditional school. "Parents as partners" is one of the tenets of traditional education. As a founding principle, it is very important that parents be involved at our school in whatever ways are possible.

If direct participation at school is not possible it is our hope and expectation that parents will support their children at home by ensuring that home studies are complete and they are reading. Please take the time to read through this handbook with your child. It is important to understand the basic elements of Abbotsford Traditional School.

On Thursday August 31 from 8:30 am until 11:30 am we will be having our Grade 6 Student Orientation. Invitations will be sent out during the summer. This is a good opportunity for Grade 6 students to make new friends, meet the Grade 8 Web Leaders who will be their buddies during the year.

September 5th is our first day of school. Students should check the main entrances doors for the name of their teachers and homeroom classes. Homeroom lists will be posted on Friday, September 1st at 4:00 p.m. Grade 8 students are to line up at the Grade 8 doors at the back of the school and Grade 7 students are to line up at the north side. ONLY grade 6 students should enter the building on the first day and go into the multipurpose room, located to the right as soon as you enter the main doors. Teachers will greet students at 8:23 am and lead the way to the classrooms. There will also be a question and answer session during this time.

Thank you for choosing Abbotsford Traditional School and welcome to the 2023-2024 school year!

Mr. Reg Gabriel

The proud Principal,

Abbotsford Traditional School

Keys For Success

There are many things that students can do to achieve success, and to have a rewarding and happy school year. Students are encouraged to:

- Get involved in special activities.
- Always do your best - be organized and use your time and agenda wisely.
- Ask for help when you need it.
- Attend classes on time and be prepared.
- Complete homework assignments carefully and on time.
- Respect other people and expect them to respect you in return.
- Respect school property, the environment, and others' property.
- Be committed to making this the best year you have had at school.
- Follow our ATS Student Courtesy Code as well as classroom/district rules.
- Smile and make new friends!

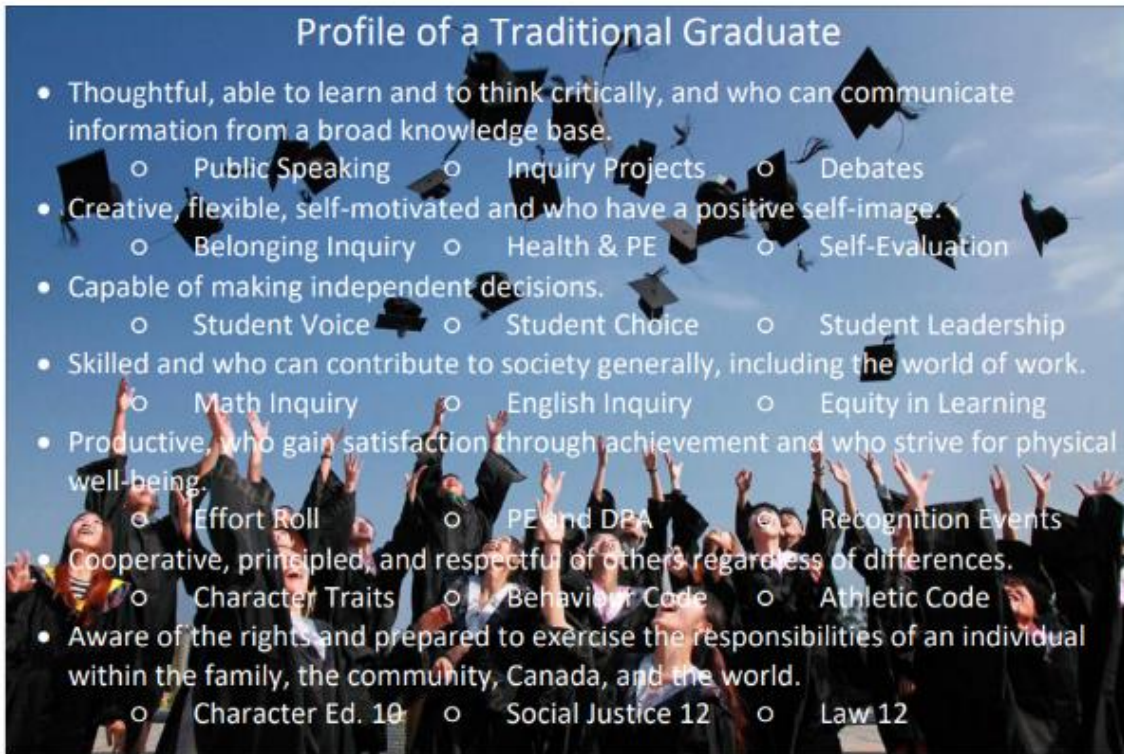
ATS School Maps

New maps coming soon!

Ten Tenets of Traditional

1. Students, educators, and families ensure a safe learning environment.
2. Students, educators, and families contribute to a healthy learning environment by adhering to a clearly defined code of conduct.
3. Students, educators, and families have elevated expectations and a strong focus on the achievement of intellectual, human, social, and career goals.
4. Students, educators, families, and the community are partners in student success.
5. Educators emphasize mastery of essential skills and competencies in reading, writing, and numeracy.
6. Educators use the provincial curriculum and their collective pedagogical expertise to personalize learning for their students.
7. Educators use consistent and predictable routines that maximize student learning.
8. Educators and students use a variety of timely assessment and feedback methods to accelerate meaningful learning and engagement.
9. Students follow a uniform dress code.
10. Learning takes place at school, at home, and in the community

Profile of a Traditional Graduate



Profile of a Traditional Graduate

- Thoughtful, able to learn and to think critically, and who can communicate information from a broad knowledge base.
 - Public Speaking
 - Inquiry Projects
 - Debates
- Creative, flexible, self-motivated and who have a positive self-image.
 - Belonging Inquiry
 - Health & PE
 - Self-Evaluation
- Capable of making independent decisions.
 - Student Voice
 - Student Choice
 - Student Leadership
- Skilled and who can contribute to society generally, including the world of work.
 - Math Inquiry
 - English Inquiry
 - Equity in Learning
- Productive, who gain satisfaction through achievement and who strive for physical well-being.
 - Effort Roll
 - PE and DBA
 - Recognition Events
- Cooperative, principled, and respectful of others regardless of differences.
 - Character Traits
 - Behaviour Code
 - Athletic Code
- Aware of the rights and prepared to exercise the responsibilities of an individual within the family, the community, Canada, and the world.
 - Character Ed. 10
 - Social Justice 12
 - Law 12

School Calendar

School Opening / Secondary – Semester 1 Starts (1/2 day dismissal)	September 5
Non-Instructional Day #1	September 29
National Day for Truth & Reconciliation (in lieu day)	October 2
Thanksgiving Day	October 9
Early Dismissal for Parent-Teacher Conferences	October 18
Early Dismissal for Parent-Teacher Conferences	October 19
Non-Instructional Day #2	October 20
Non-Instructional Day #3	November 10
Remembrance Day (in lieu day)	November 13
Report Cards (Elementary/Middle)	December 1
Last day before Winter Break	December 22
Winter Break	December 25-January 5
Schools reopen after Winter Break	January 8
Secondary – Semester 2 Starts	January 29

Report Cards (Secondary)	February 2
Early Dismissal for Parent-Teacher Conferences	February 7
Early Dismissal for Parent-Teacher Conferences	February 8
Non-Instructional Day #4	February 16
Family Day	February 19
Report Cards (Elementary/Middle)	March 8
Last day before Spring Break	March 15
Spring Break	March 18-29
Good Friday	March 29
Easter Monday	April 1
Schools reopen after Spring Break	April 2
Non-Instructional Day #5	April 26
Non-Instructional Day #6	May 17
Victoria Day	May 20
Last day for students (Report Cards for Elementary/Middle)	June 27
Report Card (Secondary)	June 28
Last day for teachers	June 28

Minutes of Instruction Per Day	Elementary – 291	Middle – 293	Secondary - 316
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Homework

Homework is an important part of each student’s academic program and is assigned for any of several reasons:

- to complete work not completed in class
- to complete a long term project
- to provide extra practice
- to serve as preparation for future lessons
- to check student’s understanding of items covered in class
- to reinforce material that was taught in class

Reports & Letter Grades

For Grade 6-8

Formal report cards are issued three times a year - before the winter break, before the spring break, and at the end of the year. At other times during the year, interim reports may be issued at the discretion of individual teachers.

For Grade 9-12

Formal report cards are completed two times per year, after Semester 1 (early February) and after Semester 2 (at the end of the year). Parents, with their child, at any time may login to myEducationBC to check out their child’s progress. Logging in to myEducationBC requires your student’s Pupil ID number and their password.

Report cards are sent home to inform the parents and students of the level of achievement for the term using the scale outlined on the report card. **There are four essential components of a competency-based reporting system:**

- *Curricular Competency Learning Standards describe what a student is able to do*
- *Big Ideas is what students understand*
- *Content Standards is what students know*

The reporting tool (report card) allows a teacher to communicate accurately a student’s progress toward meeting competencies throughout the school year. Students are assessed on what they are able to do, not what they know.

For more on BC’s redesigned curriculum, please visit this website: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca>

Proficiency Scale				
	Emerging	Developing	Proficient	Extending
	The student demonstrates an initial understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning.	The student demonstrates a partial understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning.	The student demonstrates a complete understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning.	The student demonstrates a sophisticated understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent-Teacher interviews are scheduled in conjunction with the first report card. Appointments can also be set up at any time by contacting your teacher.

Uniform Dress Code Policy

At ATS, our school has an established student uniform. Adhering to the Student Dress Code is one of the defining characteristics of the Traditional School Model. We believe promoting the use of the student uniform is important for the following reason:

Student uniforms provide for a safe and orderly environment where our students are easily identifiable and behave to a higher standard.

ATS has high academic expectations; students are expected to work with maximum effort. Dressing daily in the school uniform is symbolic of our commitment to a professional learning environment.

Students deserve to have a learning environment where others judge them by the content of their character, their ideas and their actions – not by what they wear. Uniforms provide an even playing field for all students and reduce bullying.

Wearing school-crested clothing fosters a sense of belonging and builds confidence and pride in our community.

The responsibility of adhering to our school's dress code rests with the entire community. Students who do not meet the dress code requirements will be asked to dress appropriately or supplied with an immediate change of clothing (when available). Parents will be notified when chronic uniform infractions occur. The school attempts to collaborate with families and understands the student dress code should not prevent regular attendance. However, failure to consistently meet dress code expectations is a disciplinary infraction and may result in family/guardian being contacted and the student being sent home. Any questions/concerns regarding appropriate student dress should be referred directly to the school principal.

Uniform Dress Code Requirements

**** ONLY Abbotsford Traditional School crested tops may be worn ****

All TOPS will be crested or have the athletic logo and will need to be purchased from Able Cresting. All BOTTOMS can be purchased from the store of your choice. Bottoms are expected to be loose fitting. Here are some highlights:

1. All students in grades 6-12 will wear black bottoms. This will make it easier for families to purchase bottoms less often -- black pants or shorts or skirts
2. All students in grades 6-12 will wear PE strip only for PE, and on some Spirit Days such as Fridays.
3. All students in grades 6-12 can wear sweatpants and shorts for PE. Students cannot arrive to school in sweat pants.
4. All students in grades 6-12 will wear navy blue bottoms for PE. This will make it easier for families to purchase bottoms less often.
5. Middle school students will also purchase either a light blue, grey, green, or red shirt for their House Team activities and Spirit Days. These can also be worn for PE.

For Middle and Secondary Daily Wear:

BOTTOMS: Black -

- black pants or shorts or skirt
- chino material is okay
- elastic waist is okay
- loose fitting
- no tights, no leggings, no jeans
- sweat pants only in PE

For Middle House Team events and Spirit Days:

TOPS: light blue, grey, green, or red

- athletic logo t-shirt - based on homeroom

For Middle Daily Wear:

TOPS: maroon

- crested maroon polo
- crested maroon crewneck
- crested maroon windbreaker

For Secondary Daily Wear:

TOPS: charcoal grey

- crested charcoal grey polo
- crested charcoal grey crewneck
- crested charcoal grey windbreaker

For Middle PE Strip:

TOPS and BOTTOMS:

- athletic logo navy blue sweatpants
- athletic logo navy blue shorts
- athletic logo navy blue t-shirt

For Secondary PE Strip:

TOPS: black or grey

- athletic logo black or grey t-shirt
- athletic logo navy blue sweat pants
- athletic logo navy blue shorts

Uniform Supplier Information

Able Cresting

#102-31281 Wheel Avenue

Phone: 604-864-9728

www.ablecresting.com

Hours: Monday–Friday, 9:00 am–5:00 pm

Saturday 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

ATS School Procedures

Attendance

Regular attendance is one of the keys to success. Students are expected to be present each day during school hours. If for any reason your son/daughter will be absent from school, please enter their absence on the School Messenger app or website (<https://go.schoolmessenger.com>). You can sign up for an account using the same email address that you receive school communications on and your child will automatically be added to your account. Please enter your students absence, late, or early departure prior to 9:00 AM.

Please note, the email address used for school communications should be a PARENT's email only. Anyone who has access to the email account can enter your child as an excused absence. If your child is allowed to enter their own absences, it becomes difficult for us to know whether students are missing school with legitimate parent permission or not. Please connect with the office if you are not sure if your email is set up correctly for school communications.

Late arrivals are unfair interruptions for the class. Students are expected to be present and punctual for all classes. If a student is late, they must check in at the school office, pick up a late slip and give the slip to the teacher upon entering the class.

Bussing - User Pay

Families that choose to bus their children to school need to register for bussing and pay for that option through the school district. To contact the Transportation Department regarding bussing can email school_bus@sd34.bc.ca or go on the District website www.sd34.bc.ca and look for the "Bus Information" link under "Parents & Students."

The User Pay busses drop off and pick up at the entrance of ATSS. Busses will leave promptly at the designated times. If your child misses the bus, they may use the phone either in the ATSS hall by the office or at the ATS office.

Internet Use At School

Parent/Student Agreements forms are located on our website. These must be returned before students will be allowed to access the internet at school.

**Use of the school's computer system is neither private nor confidential and will be monitored. School network administrators reserve the right to access and remove files on the system.

Emergency Drills

Throughout the year we have Emergency drills so that staff and students will be prepared in the event of an emergency. Our Emergency Drills include practicing procedures for Fire, Earthquake, Intruder Alerts and Evacuation.

Injuries And Medical Needs

Minor injuries happen on a daily basis. Band-aids are available at the office.

If a student has been seriously injured, it should be reported to a teacher or supervisor and the student brought to the office medical room. A First Aid Attendant is available at all times.

When a student is ill at school, provisions will be made for them to lie down in the medical room until he/she feels better or until a parent arrives.

Parents or Emergency Contacts will be called in the event of a serious injury. Should the student require immediate medical attention and the parent or contact is not available, 911 will be called. In a life-threatening situation, 911 will be called immediately.

Parents are asked to inform the school should their student have a contagious illness.

If your student has a chronic health concern, please see the office. We have a safe place for necessary medications and a booklet to record procedures to keep your child safe.

Students with medical devices such as Epipens that may need staff assistance to administer, MUST have the correct documentation and the medical device supplied to the office. Please review the following link to ensure we have the correct medical information for your student if necessary,
<https://www.abbyschools.ca/administrative-procedures/AP327>

Locks And Lockers

Lockers are the property of the school and the school administration reserves the right to open and search lockers for issues relating to school safety and security. Unsafe or dangerous items should never come to school and must never be put in a school locker. It is a privilege to have a locker, and it is the student's responsibility to take care of their locker. Lockers are not to be damaged or defaced in any way. Students must use their assigned lockers.

Locks are supplied by the school and are required. Students are not to share their combination with others. If a student forgets the lock combination they can ask at the office. Lost locks are subject to a \$2 fee for any replacements or exchanges. Each student is responsible for the lock he/she received at the beginning of the year.

Lost And Found

All personal possessions including clothing, footwear, stationery, and books should be clearly labeled. Items should be secured in student lockers when not in use.

The school will not be responsible for lost money, jewelry, or personal possessions. Students should not bring valuable items to school unless a teacher specifically requests them.

A lost and found box is located in the main hallway. Students should check for lost articles on a regular basis.

Lunch Time Expectations

Middle students are to be in their Homeroom classes during the eating period.

Before leaving the classroom, students need to make sure the room is tidy and all garbage has been picked up.

Students are expected to return all borrowed equipment from their class bin.

Students are to line up before entering the building.

The ATS PAC will provide a hot lunch 2 or 3 days per week typically, as an option for students to purchase.

Physical Education (P.E.)

P.E. is part of the school curriculum. All students are expected to participate. Logoed P.E. strip should be brought for all P.E. classes. Parents please ensure P.E. strip is brought home and washed frequently. Students need to bring a lock from home to secure personal items in change room lockers during gym class. These locks must be removed after every gym class. Locks that are left on change room lockers will be cut off.

Student Pick Up

Parents need to come into the school to sign out their students in the middle of the day. At the end of the day, parents are asked to arrange for prompt pick up after school. Student who are waiting past 3:00 pm are asked wait outside the front door for their ride.

Supervision

Teachers provide supervision for students during the following times:

8:05 - 8:15 am before school

2:24 - 2:31pm after school

All before and after school activities will be arranged and supervised by individual staff members.

Our paid lunch time supervisors assist with monitoring students at lunch time. They monitor classrooms during the eating period, and supervise outside during activity time. They are there to ensure the safety of the students and also help to resolve any problems and students are expected to respect the authority of our Noonhour Supervisors.

Telephone/Cell Phone Use

Telephones at the school are used for school business and incoming messages. Students may use the office telephone after asking permission. After school activities should be prearranged so the student does not have to phone. Students in Grades 9-12 may use/carry their cell phones on them during the day, however they are never to be used in class except with explicit teacher permission. Students in Grade 6-8 are expected to keep their cell phone turned off and left in their locker or not brought to school at all.

Textbooks And Library

Students are issued the textbooks they will need for the year at no cost. Students will be billed for any lost or damaged books from the Library or for textbooks that are not returned in the same condition, issued by their classroom teachers.

Optional workbooks may need to be purchased, if a workbook is purchased your son/daughter can keep it.

Visitors To The School

All visitors MUST report to the office to identify themselves to the office staff.

Visitors to our school will be identified by a visitor's tag.

Student Discipline Policy

Philosophy & Purpose

Our goal is to work together with students and parents to provide the safest and most productive learning environment in the district. To help us do this, we need to have a clear code of conduct that our students understand.

The Code of Conduct document is updated every year and distributed school district wide. Please review the Code of Conduct for the current year.

Cheating/Plagiarism Policy

Plagiarism is a form of stealing. It usually involves taking someone else's ideas or work and claiming it as your own. This includes the following:

- Copying ideas, phrases, sentences or paragraphs from books, the internet or any other source without giving credit to the author.
- Paraphrasing: This is when a student uses ideas, which are not his/her own, and simply changes an occasional word or the order of a sentence.
- Submitting work from parents or other students: although we encourage parent involvement, students should not hand in work which has any portion written by parents, or other family members.
- Using photographs, charts, statistics, figures, numerical data or any other visual source without giving the source of the information in the assignment.

Disciplinary Action

CONSEQUENCES

ATS ensures that students receive corrective action in a timely, judicious, and responsible manner. Methodology for addressing disciplinary infraction when they arise should conform to the value statements outlined in our Code of Conduct Philosophy.

ATS has a Behaviour Response Plan that categorizes behaviours into three Levels:

Level I Behaviours

Level I Behaviours are considered minor rule violations and are dealt with by teachers at the class level.

Level II Behaviours

Level II Behaviours are defined as chronic behaviours that require collaborative intervention of staff, administration and parents.

Level III Behaviors

SERIOUS OFFENCES (ZERO TOLERANCE):

Level III Behaviours are serious infractions that require immediate referral to the office. For a complete list of these behaviours, please refer to the ATS Behaviour Management Protocols & Teacher Resource Booklet.

Traditional Schooling requires staff and students to uphold the highest standards of conduct. Our goal is that, through mutual respect and order, both teachers and students can maximize their efforts in the classroom. There is “zero tolerance” for the following behaviours.

These offences include, but are not limited to:

- inappropriate or offensive language,
- physical violence or verbal threats,
- willful disobedience or defiance,
- damage to school property or the property of others,
- using or taking the property of others without permission,
- leaving the school property without permission,
- causing a false fire alarm

Communication With Parents

Traditional Tenet #4:

Students, educators, families, and the community are partners in student success.

ATS faculty and administration pride themselves on a collaborative working relationship with parents where problems are identified early and information is shared to ensure best strategies are followed in the support of children’s learning needs. This spirit permeates our intentions in regards to communicating disciplinary events to our parents.

Where Level III Behaviours have taken place our expectation is immediate communication with all members related directly to the care of the student. This includes teachers, principals and parents or guardians. Teachers/principals typically attempt to contact families directly involved or affected by disciplinary events within 24 hours if immediate contact is not possible. Parents are expected to be proactive communicators and contact the school whenever they have concerns regarding their child’s safety at school. When in doubt, we share information and collaborate in our efforts to aid students.

Conflict Resolution Process

- Step 1 - Start with the person whose action has given rise to the concerns or problem. This is the person who can best address your concern. Most often this is your child’s teacher.
- Step 2 - If you need further assistance with your concern, your principal / vice-principal is there to help.
- Step 3 - If you feel your concerns are not resolved, contact an Assistant Superintendent at 604-859-4891.

- Step 4 - If a decision of a District Administrator significantly affects the education, health or safety of a student, the student and/or parent may appeal in writing to the Board of Education.

To build a positive relationship with your school...

- meet the staff early in the school year;
- be informed about your child's class and school activities;
- send a note or make a call to recognize a job well done;
- be involved in your school's PAC;
- be willing to listen and learn;
- remember that both you and school staff are interested in your child's success.
- For students in Grades 9-12, regularly login to myEducationBC to review your child's progress.

What Not To Bring To School

For student safety and to avoid any possible theft or damage to personal property, we ask the following items not be brought to our campus:

- Valuables such as jewelry or large amounts of money.
- Your own sports equipment
- Gum
- Rollerblades or skateboards

ATS Character Code

Respect ~ Responsibility ~ Integrity ~ Empathy ~ Courage ~ Service

At ATS we believe that character is an important part of being an educated citizen. Social skills and virtues enable people to make a positive difference in the world. An intentional effort to bring these character traits to life in our students can play a role in creating a positive and pro-social, supportive culture in our school.

Expectations: Staff and Students are expected to promote the following character traits:

RESPECT

- Greet others and respond appropriately when they greet you.
- Use "please" and thank you" often.
- Use proper names and formal titles when addressing others (Mr., Mrs., Sir, etc).
- Use appropriate language. Swearing or rude language is offensive.
- Avoid walking between others when they are having a conversation.
- Be tolerant of different views and perspectives.
- Respect others who are waiting by proceeding to the back of the line.
- Raise your hand to speak in class.
- Share the hallways and stay to the right when possible and keep entrances clear.
- Line up in single file to enter the building and/or classes when instructed by supervisors.

RESPONSIBILITY

- Ask for permission before you borrow or use others' property.
- Put things back where you find them.
- Cover your mouth while coughing, sneezing, or yawning.
- Maintain your personal hygiene.
- Arrive to school and class on time.
- Be prepared for class with the proper materials.
- Dress appropriately according to the weather conditions.

INTEGRITY

- Tell the truth.
- Never cheat, steal, or plagiarize.
- Always do your best.
- Wear your uniform with shirts tucked in and ensure it is neat, clean, and in good condition.
- Speak kindly of others and avoid gossip and rumours.
- Report directly to the office upon late arrival before proceeding to class.
- Accept responsibility for your mistakes.
- Do not litter and clean up your messes.

EMPATHY

- Be aware of those around you and attempt to share space patiently in common areas.
- Value others by listening and not interrupting.
- Forgive others when they make mistakes.
- Know when to say, "I'm sorry" to make peace with those who have been hurt.
- Be inclusive and do not purposefully exclude others.

COURAGE

- Always do the right thing, even when it's difficult.
- Speak out appropriately when you or others suffer mistreatment.
- Think positively and see the possibilities in every challenge.

SERVICE

- Help others, even when not asked.
- Volunteer when adults request help.
- Hold doors open for other and help them with their belongings.

Athletic Code Of Conduct

The actions of a student-athlete are a reflection of themselves, their team, their school, and their community. A student's involvement in a school sport provides opportunities and experiences that are important to the development of a well-rounded student. First and foremost, all players must show respect for their teammates, coaches, and spectators at all times.

Student athletes must act in accordance with the following:

Class – Live and play with class; be a good sport; be gracious in victory and accept defeat with dignity; give fallen opponents help, complement extraordinary performances, show sincere respect in pre-game and post-game rituals.

Respect – Treat everyone with respect at all times, and require the same from your teammates. Don't complain about or argue with official calls or decisions during or after the event.

Disrespectful conduct – Don't engage in disrespectful conduct of any sort including profanity, obscene gestures, trash-talking, taunting, boastful celebrations, or other actions that demean individuals or the sport.

Role modeling – Consistently exhibit good character and conduct yourself as a positive role model.

Self-control – Exercise self-control; don't fight or show excessive displays of anger or frustration; have the strength to overcome the temptation to retaliate.

Concern for others – Demonstrate concern for others; never intentionally injure any player or engage in reckless behavior that might cause injury to others.

Play by the rules – Honour the spirit and the letter of the rules; avoid temptations to gain competitive advantage through improper gamesmanship techniques that violate the highest traditions of sportsmanship.

Practices – Demonstrate a commitment to the program by attending practices; realize the importance of game preparation. Be on time, assist with equipment and come prepared to play.

Academics – Excellent effort and attitude within the classroom is a priority. Academic failure is not acceptable.

Participation in sports is a privilege, not a right. Students are expected to represent their school, coaches and teammates with honour, on and off the field. Coaches & teachers reserve the right to suspend the play of student athletes for academic and behavioral non-compliance.

ATS Standard Athletic Fees

Research is clear in demonstrating the abundance of benefits that sports and physical activities have on brain development as well and physical well-being.

Participating in school sports is an inexpensive, economical opportunity for any student to participate in. In comparison to community sports the fees charged for participation in school sports are very reasonable. However, all schools charge a fee for students to participate in sports.

The cost associated with each sport varies as some seasons of play are more expensive than others. The standard fee charged for each sport goes towards the following: registering the athlete with BCSS, FVSSAA, AMSSAA; Uniform rental and/or replacement; Referee's, tournament fees, season ending party, and athletic awards, as well as t-shirts and warm up shirts.

Schools no longer accept cash or check payment for any school fee. You must access the following website to pay school fees: <https://abbotsford.schoolcashionline.com>

What You May Expect To See

ATS Key Visuals

1. Students line up at designated locations outside the school at the beginning of the day. Students are expected to dress appropriately for outdoor morning line up. (e.g. Carrying umbrellas, with jackets on, etc.).
2. Middle school students proceed quietly in the hallways between classes to minimize disruptions in classrooms that are not in transition. This includes transitions to and from the Gymnasium.
3. Students wear clothing in compliance with our school dress code.
4. Good manners are expected at all times. (e.g. holding doors open for others, not interrupting people who are talking, using proper language at all times including "please" and "thank you", etc.) Please see our ATS Student Courtesy Code for more specific items.

Class Looping At ATS

What Is Looping?

"Looping" is a simple concept: a teacher moves with his or her students to the next grade level, rather than sending them to another teacher at the end of the school year. At the end of a "loop" of two years, the teacher begins the cycle again with a new group of students. At ATS, students and teachers in grades 6 and 7 loop. This means that your child will continue with their Grade 6 teacher into Grade 7.

What Are The Benefits Of Looping?

Teachers and students in looping classes need not start from scratch every fall, learning new sets of names and personalities, establishing classroom rules and expectations. Most teachers find that students remain on task far longer at the end of the first year; accordingly, teachers estimate that they gain a significant amount of learning time at the start of the second year.

Spending several years with a class enables teachers to accumulate more in-depth knowledge of students' personalities, learning styles, strengths, and weaknesses. This longer contact reduces time spent on diagnosis and facilitates more effective instruction. It also helps teachers build better relationships with students and parents. Looping has been found to greatly assist teachers in their efforts to address student learning difficulties overtime.

For students, having the same teacher and classmates for two years provides stability and builds a sense of community. Looping reduces anxiety and increases confidence for many children, enabling them to blossom both socially and as learners.

Parent Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in being a parent volunteer for any of these events or require more information, please contact the office at 604-850-7029 or the PAC at abbytradpac@gmail.com.

- PAC participation on the executive and as general members.
- Throughout the year we will need supervision at fieldtrips and some school-wide events.
- Grade 8 year end event organizers. (set up, clean up, decorate, etc.).
- Noon-hour supervisors - full and part time positions. Preference will be given to those available 5 days a week every lunch hour.
- Field trip chaperones

Parent Advisory Counsel

The Parent Advisory Council (PAC) is your parent community at Abbotsford Traditional Middle School. It is hoped that our parent community will work closely with administration and staff to support, encourage, and provide assistance to enhance the quality of education and the well being for all students at Abbotsford Traditional School. For more information, please contact the PAC Executive at abbytradpac@gmail.com.

PAC EXECUTIVE

Chairperson: Baljit Sangha

Vice-Chairperson: Karm Mahal

Secretary: Mandy Aujla

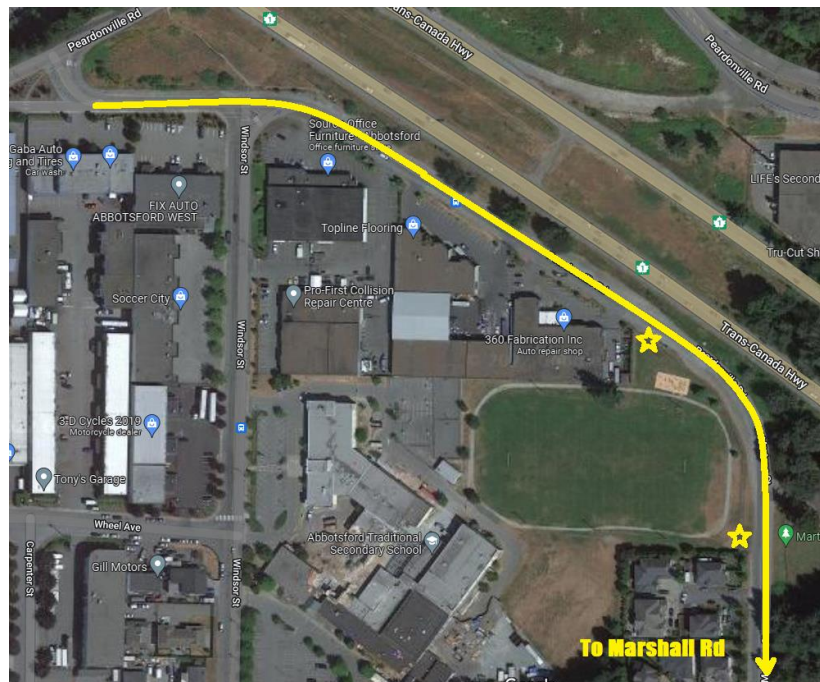
Treasurer: Pawan Dhillon

District PAC: Jas Badesha

Parking Lot Courtesy

Student drop off and pick up continues to be an issue with regard to the heavy traffic around the front of the school. This congestion blocks local traffic in and out of business and residential driveways, it blocks our busses from getting into the school to pick up students and it causes long waits for parents to get in and out of the area. Please consider using one of the options below as your pickup and drop off method to help reduce this congestion and make drop off and pick up much faster and easier.

Option 1: Drive along Peardonville Road and park on the gravel and drop off/pick up the student at the back of the school field. There are two walking entry points at the ends of the fence as marked below. You can then continue along this road and exit onto Marshall Rd



Option 2: Turn off Peardonville Road onto Townline Road and then onto Wheel Avenue. Drop off your student along Wheel Avenue and they can walk along the sidewalk and then use the crosswalk to get onto school grounds. You can then turn down Carpenter Street to get out onto Marshall Road. If you are coming from the south on Marshall Road, you can instead turn up Carpenter Street, drop off on Wheel Avenue and then turn back down Townline Road to return to Marshall Road.



Option 3: Turn into the school parking lot at the south entrance and continue through the loop, dropping your student off at the entrance. This is not the recommended option as it will be the most congested area and will take the longest to get in and out. Stopping on Windsor Street to wait to get into the parking lot is not recommended as it blocks traffic in and out of the area and into and out of the surrounding business and residential driveways.

