

# Discipline and Rules

We strive to create a caring and vibrant learning environment for Bowenians to '**Do Well and Do Good**'. Our rules describe the standard of conduct expected at all times. Our end-goal is to guide you to cultivate core values and habits and to become **self-disciplined individuals of good character**.

## 1. Be Respectful

- **Be respectful and courteous to school-mates and staff at all times. Do not use coarse words or vulgarities, whether in person or online. The school adopts a zero-tolerance stand against bullying.**
- Uphold your reputation and the school's reputation both in school and in public by being on your best behaviour, whether you are in school uniform or not. Take care of your personal safety and the safety of members of public.
- Respect teachers' personal space. The staff room is out of bounds to students. If you wish to see a teacher, use the phone outside the staff room to call the teacher and meet the teacher outside the staff room. If you need to telephone or to text your teacher, do so within daylight hours. Avoid night hours and weekends, unless there is an emergency.
- Students must attend the daily flag-raising ceremony. Students who are Singapore citizens must sing the National Anthem and take the Pledge. Students will take the Pledge with the right fist over the heart.

## 2. Be Responsible

- **Be responsible for your words and actions; take ownership for what you say and do. If you see others doing the wrong thing, e.g., bully others, do the right thing and step in to correct the matter, or report it to a teacher.**
- During lessons, do not leave the classroom without permission from the teacher in class at that time. During recess, during PE periods and after school, do not remain in class or loiter around the classroom blocks.
- Be responsible for the cleanliness of your classroom. Food and bottled/packet drinks can only be consumed in the canteen.
- Be responsible in managing and maintaining the cleanliness in the classrooms and/or special rooms after a lesson.
- You are not allowed to bring any card games to school. These include cards like UNO, Poker, Collectible Cards and various other card games.
- You are not allowed to smoke or possess any cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vaporizers, narcotics or illegal substances.
- You are not allowed to consume or possess alcoholic beverages or beverages that resemble alcoholic beverages.
- You are not allowed to have in your possession any weapon. You are also not allowed to bring any weapon-like item which can be used or intended to be used to cause harm to others.
- You are not allowed to bring in any items which may constitute or pose a risk of a fire hazard. E.g. lighters, kerosene, sparklers etc.

- Teenage years are growing-up years, where students develop healthy friendships with friends of same and opposite gender.
- Platonic relationships which focus on mutual respect that builds healthy and rewarding relationships with friends are encouraged.
- One-to-one, exclusive relationship with friends of the opposite gender or same gender are discouraged. We encourage students to make responsible choices so as to grow as an individual who contributes to self, family and society positively.
- In addition, any messaging online or offline (e.g. suggestive / explicit content) or behaviour (e.g. holding hands, hugging or kissing) that is considered inappropriate for teenage years will be dealt with as disciplinary offences.

### **Examination Rules and Regulations**

- You must not commit or attempt any acts of dishonesty, or support such acts. For example, writing information / notes on any part(s) of your body, taking the examination on someone else's behalf, using unauthorised devices, or giving answers to or obtaining answers from another candidate.
- You must not communicate or attempt to communicate with other candidate(s) / unauthorised person(s) during the examination, or during any occasion when communication is strictly prohibited. For example, when answer scripts are being collected, or during movement to the quarantine area.
- You should only face the front and must not turn around during the examination.
- You must not write or draw anything that is offensive or obscene in your answers.
- You must not exhibit improper conduct or misbehaviour during the examination. For example, disturbing other candidates or disobeying instructions from examination personnel.
- You must not leave the examination venue, quarantine or holding room unescorted or without permission from the examination personnel.
- You must not flip open or turn over the question paper until you are instructed to do so.
- You must stop writing and close the answer booklet (if applicable) after the invigilator has made the announcement to do so. You are to remain seated quietly while your answer script is being collected and counted.
- You must be in an appropriate attire (School Smart Formal or Smart Casual attire).
- If you are wearing an outerwear (e.g. jackets, cardigan, windbreaker, sweater) into the examination venue, you must ensure that your outerwear do not have any unauthorised materials or devices. You may be asked to remove the outerwear for checking before or during the examination.
- If you fail to comply with abovementioned rules and regulations or any other additional instructions for any specific examination paper or subject, you would be deemed to have breached the examination rules and regulations. As a result, you may have your results annulled or imposed with a grade penalty. Conduct grade may be adversely affected and the offence will be recorded.

## Hand Phones and Other Mobile Devices

Responsible use of hand phones and other digital devices (e.g. cameras, smart watches etc.) is expected of all students both in school and out of school. With the introduction of Personal Learning Devices (PLDs) from 2021, students will not need their hand phones for learning or accessing online learning materials. **Hence, during curriculum hours (including CCAs, after school programs, enrichment programs, extra/remediation lessons and learning journeys) all students are required to lock their hand phones in their personal lockers. Students are allowed to retrieve their hand phones from the lockers after curriculum hours.**

- **Hand phones should be turned off during curriculum time and should not be a source of distraction during lessons.** Use of hand phones is allowed only:
  - During lessons if teachers use it as part of teaching and learning
  - After school only: at the canteen / foyer
- **Use of hand phones is disallowed at all times in other areas.** For example, classrooms, homerooms, library, science labs, computer labs, ISH / Hall / Field, corridors etc.
- **Students should communicate using messaging apps and social media with respect and courtesy.** The language and images in WhatsApp groups must be respectful and free of coarse language and vulgarities.

It is the responsibility of students to exercise proper care of their hand phones and PLDs to prevent loss, damage and theft. The school may not investigate the theft of hand phones and PLDs. Students should be responsible for their phones / PLDs and should not

- leave their hand phones / PLDs unattended
- leave the hand phones / PLDs in open view, for instance, in the toilet, classroom and canteen.

## Cyber-offences and Online Postings

- **Irresponsible and inappropriate uses of technology include:** cyberbullying, pornography, taking and circulating inappropriate photographs or videos. These are deemed to be **serious offences and offenders will be dealt with accordingly.**
- **If inappropriate photographs or videos are posted online,** this will be deemed as a **second offence**, as this involves a much greater disrespect than simply taking the photographs or videos. The student(s) concerned will be required to remove the photographs or videos immediately and make a public apology to the victim(s) and/or the school. Other disciplinary measures may also be meted out, e.g. making a police report.

If a student breaches the rules above on the use of hand phones, mobile devices and cyber-offences, the school may confiscate the hand phone or mobile device for the purpose of investigation or as a disciplinary measure. The school will be firm and fair in dealing with technology-related offences, as the end-goal is the education and learning of the students. The school will keep parents informed.

## Good Practices for Online Group Chats

# 7 Bowen Rules for all Group Chats

## Be Respectful. Be Responsible. Be Safe.

Let's observe these points of etiquette for meaningful and pleasant participation in Group Chats.

- 1 Be Respectful**  
Send only helpful messages and images, and not harmful ones. Do not make fun of others. Vulgar words, images and videos are strictly not allowed.
- 2 Be Responsible**  
Use Group Chats to help others become a better Bowenian, to spread good messages, to remind classmates about homework and CCA matters, etc.
- 3 Be Courageous**  
If others send inappropriate texts, tell them to stop. Tell your teachers.
- 4 Be Considerate**  
Keep your text between 7am and 7pm so that everyone can rest.
- 5 Focus**  
Take action to keep your chats from distracting you. If necessary, turn off your 'Notifications'.
- 6 Think before you text**  
Keep messages to the objectives and purpose of the Group Chat.
- 7 Do not Spam**  
Spam distracts attention from important messages and wastes time.

## Good Practices for Use of PLD

Do note that PLDs should be used to support students' learning. In the event that a student misuses the PLD by watching, posting or playing media that does not support learning, the school may take relevant action against the student. This may include confiscation of device until a parent collects it from the school personally.

### 3. Be Present

- **Attendance at school and school-related activities (e.g. CCA, Sports Day, Enrichment Days etc.) is compulsory, as there will be continuity of learning when there is regular attendance.** Students who are absent must submit a valid medical certificate (MC) or a letter from parents with valid reasons immediately upon their return to school after they are absent. Students who are absent from school without either MC or parents' letter stating a valid reason will be regarded as having committed **truancy, which is a serious offence**. Only MCs from doctors who are registered with the Singapore Medical Association will be accepted.
- As it is important that students attend school regularly, we encourage parents/guardians to excuse their children from school through parents/guardians' letters only for valid reasons such as unforeseen family circumstances. If students are unwell, we advise them to seek medical attention and be excused from school through an MC. We will allow students to be excused from school through parents/guardians' letter only up to 3 letters per term.
- Poor attendance may affect the student's conduct grade.

- Our students' safety, well-being and learning are our top priority. No student is allowed to leave the school during school hours (including lesson time, CCA time and other school activities) for any reason without permission. A student is only allowed to leave school before the official dismissal time if he/she: (a) has a valid reason and are granted approval, and (b) is picked up by his/her parent/guardian from the General Office.

#### 4. Be Punctual

- **Students must be punctual** for school, lessons, CCA and other school activities. Students should be at the flag-raising ceremony **by 7.30 am**.
- Students who are late for school will have to explain themselves to the Discipline Teachers. Parents may be informed of late-coming.
- Persistent late-coming to school, especially after Warning Letters are issued, will affect the conduct grade and will be recorded in the Report Book.
- Students who are late for school are required to complete 1 hour Detention Class on the actual day that he/she is late. Do take note that students' hand phones will be confiscated. The hand phones will be returned to students after the completion of Detention Class which takes place after curriculum time.

#### 5. Be Well-Groomed

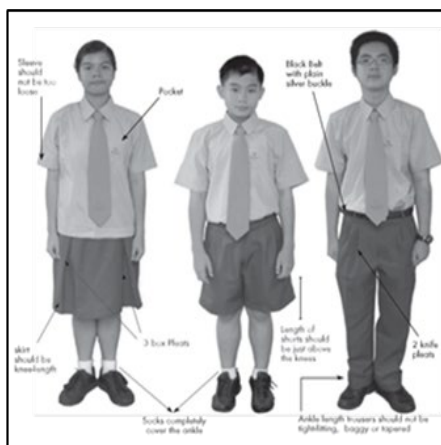
##### 5.1 Uniform and Attire

- **The school uniform is a key symbol of school identity. Students should wear the school uniform neatly and with pride.** All students are to wear the prescribed school uniform and modification to the uniform is not allowed.

#### 3 Types of Bowen School Uniforms

##### Smart Formal Attire

Compulsory for Mondays with School Tie to be worn till recess



##### PE Attire

Attire for PE Lessons only



##### Smart Casual Attire

(optional)

Alternative for Tuesdays - Fridays



- The **Smart Formal Attire** (*shirt with trousers / shorts for boys, blouse with skirt for girls; with school tie*) is compulsory for Monday mornings as the school will convene in the school hall for the weekly morning assembly. After hall assembly, students can take off their ties and choose to change into the **Smart Casual Attire** (*polo-shirt, PE t-shirt with trousers / shorts / skirt*).

- All students are allowed to change to PE T-shirt **and** formal school trousers/shorts/skirts **after 1.30 p.m.** (Mondays to Fridays).
- For Fridays, deemed as Dress Down Day, students are allowed to report in their CCA, Class T-shirts or PE T-shirts and school trousers/shorts/skirts.
- From **Tuesdays to Fridays**, both Smart Formal Attire (without school tie) and Smart Casual Attire may be worn.
  - The school shirt / blouse should not be worn with sleeves folded or with the topmost button fixed (except when the school tie is worn).
  - Trouser modifications (e.g. tapering and skinny jeans style) are not allowed except for length adjustment. Only black or dark brown-coloured belts with plain buckles are allowed.
  - Skirt modifications are not allowed. Skirts must not be tight-fitted and must be at knee-length. Folding at the waistline of the skirts is also not allowed.
  - Students should in the Smart Formal/Casual attire during examinations and common tests.

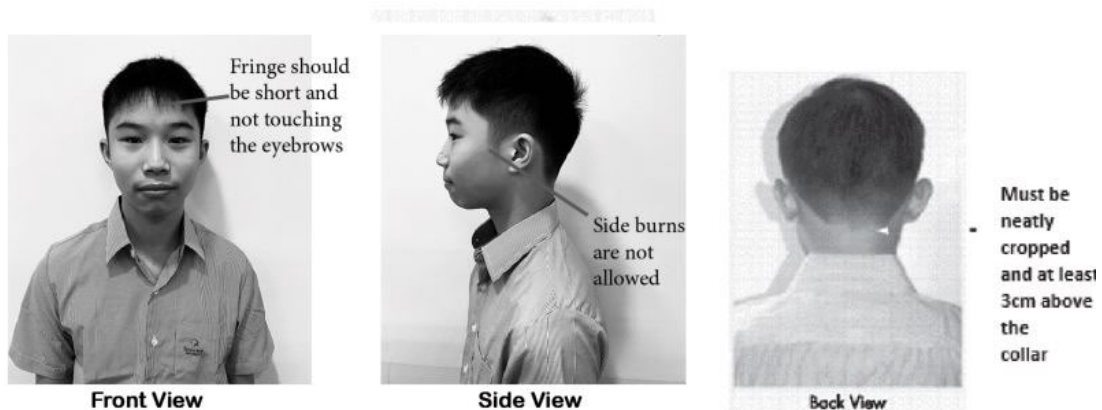
In view of the ongoing situation of COVID-19, students must wear a face mask at all times. Hence, students are allowed to report in CCA, Class T-shirts or PE T-shirts and formal school trousers/shorts/skirts from **Mondays to Thursdays**. Take note that CCA, Class T-shirts or PE T-shirts must be neatly tucked in with school bottoms at all times for boys and girls.

Do take note that the above dress code is temporary and caters to the requirements for wearing mask due to COVID-19. School has the right to revert to the original dress code when there is a change in national policy.

- **Attire for PE Lessons:** Students must wear their PE T-shirt and school black PE shorts for PE lessons. After PE lessons, students must change out of their PE attire and into their shirt / polo-shirt and formal attire bottoms (shorts / trousers / skirt) for classroom lessons.
  - Students who have **PE during the first period on Tue to Fri**, are allowed to attend assembly in PE top with school bottoms (pants/skirt).
  - PE T-shirt must be tucked in with PE shorts for Boys and Girls.
- **School Tie** (as part of Smart Formal Attire): The school tie should be worn on all morning assemblies on Mondays (Smart Formal Attire) and during formal school events (e.g. Speech Day). Students are also expected to wear their ties when attending formal events outside school such as when receiving Edusave awards, or when representing the school during formal events.
- **School Shoes:** Students are allowed to wear track shoes in only black, white, grey, blue or purple colours (i.e. school colours) to school. Students may also choose to wear black canvas shoes with black or white shoelaces. Side rubber trimmings of the sole can either be black or white. Only white socks are allowed and must be worn such that the cuffs (top part) of the socks are visible. Students who come in slippers may be disallowed entry into the school unless for valid reasons.
- Students who come to school outside curriculum / CCA times, e.g. during school holidays or the Night Study Programme, must still come in school uniform and with proper footwear.

## 5.2 Hairstyles

- Students are **not allowed** to colour their hair.
- **For boys**
  - Hair should be short and neat and should not touch the eyebrows, ears or the shirt collar.
  - Hair at the back of the head must be cropped close to the nape of the neck and must be neatly sloped.
  - Outlandish styles are not allowed (e.g. very short hair at sides and very long hair at top, or shave their hair).
  - Boys must be clean-shaven. Moustaches, beards, goatees or long sideburns are strictly forbidden.

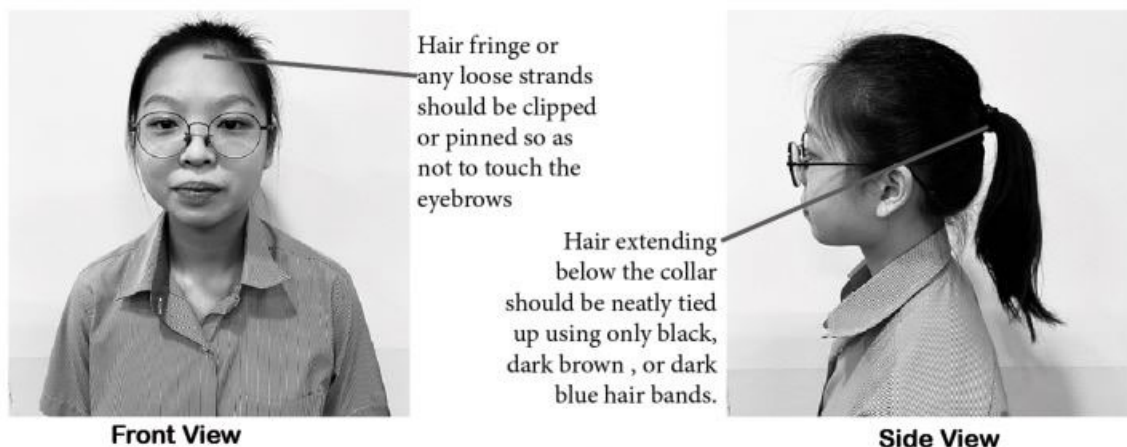


*Sample of hairstyle recommended in school.*



*Sample of hairstyles **not allowed** in school include layered haircut and shaving only the sides (leaving the back portion longer).*

- **For girls**
  - Girls should keep their hair neat at all times.
  - Hair extending below the collar should be neatly tied, pinned up or clipped.
  - The fringe should be neatly pinned or clipped so as not to touch the eyebrows.
  - Hair accessories like hair pins, hair bands or ribbons must be either black, dark brown or navy blue in colour.



*Sample of hairstyle recommended in school.*



*Sample of hairstyles (for girls) **not allowed** in the school. Fringes must be neatly clipped up (including those at the side of the forehead) - refer to page 17 for the standard hairstyle for girls.*

### 5.3 Contact Lenses

- Students who use contact lenses must not use coloured lenses.

### 5.5 Make Up and Body Art

- Students are not allowed to use any form of make-up, except during school performances and with approval from the teachers-in-charge.
- Body art / painting / piercing, including tattoos and henna paintings, are not allowed.

### 5.4 Ornaments/Accessories

- Rings, necklaces, lockets, fanciful earrings, large plastic ear-sticks, bracelets, anklets or other forms of jewellery or accessories are not allowed.
- Ornaments worn for religious reasons must not be visible.
- Girls are allowed to wear only one small ear stud on each ear (diameter should not be more than 0.5cm).
- Boys are not allowed to wear earrings.

### 5.5 Outerwear (jackets, sweaters, cardigan, windbreaker)

- Students are allowed to bring an outerwear to school for the purpose of taking examination in the Home Rooms or if the student is feeling colder/rainy mornings/unwell. Otherwise, if there is no explicit need to bring a jacket, students are not allowed to bring an outerwear.
- Outerwear must be predominantly plain-coloured (black, blue, purple etc). Messages or images on the outerwear that are deemed to be offensive in nature are strictly not allowed.

## Conclusion



Students who break the school rules will be guided **firmly and fairly** to reflect and learn from their mistakes. **Educative measures** such as 'time out' for reflection, warning letters, detention and service to school will be used to support the students' learning. Where necessary, **other measures** such as surrendering hand phone to the Office during the school day, suspension in school, suspension at home and caning may also be used to help students to learn.

This list of rules above can be summarised as – **Be Respectful and Responsible**. While the list is not exhaustive, students who are respectful and responsible will strive to do the right thing in all situations. We look to parents to work with the school as consistent and collaborative partners, so that we can achieve the goal of **self-disciplined individuals of good character**.