

## *Pleasant Valley*

### *Behavior Expectations*

In order to promote a culture of caring, an environment conducive to learning, and the safety of all students, we are committed to establishing clear, consistent, school-wide expectations for behavior. It is important that all students and parents understand and support these expectations as well as the consequences if these expectations are not met. We expect students to respect others, to respect school property, and to respect themselves by coming to school prepared to learn.

We have a multi-pronged, proactive approach to help students develop social-emotional skills. These include:

- Monthly Soul Shoppe assemblies and the Peace Path
- NYC counselors
- 20 First Days of School and the establishment of consistent norms and values
- Community Building circles in classrooms
- Teachable moments of discrete social skills with an adult
- Developing caring relationships
- Playworks on the playground (Coming to PV this year!)
- Various grade level incentive programs (e.g., Summit tickets, Friday Free Time, etc.)

We also have a multi-pronged approach to help students understand consequences for unexpected or negative behaviors:

- Teacher-parent communications
- Peace Path to resolve conflicts
- Meetings with Principal & “Solution Teams”
- Restorative Justice
- Referral to Principal for violations of ED Code

The following are behaviors that would warrant a referral to the principal and that may also result in a suspension or expulsion:

1. Bullying behaviors, actions, or words
2. Biting, spitting, or purposefully tripping, hitting, kicking, pushing, punching, or otherwise harming another person
3. Teasing or using threats or put downs
4. Threatening to destroy the school or to cause harm to people at school
5. Using obscene language or gestures
6. Excessive aggression while playing recess games
7. Entering classrooms or common rooms or play in the breezeway during recess/lunch without adult supervision
8. Destruction of school property, vandalism, or graffiti

Age of students, situations, and circumstances are always taken into consideration when speaking with students about expected behaviors, and we try to be equitable and fair with every student. ***Equitable is not necessarily equal.*** Please review this information carefully with your child(ren).