

## Sample

### POSITIVE SCHOOL CLIMATE POLICY

*This optional policy endorses positive steps to create a positive school climate, which is linked to student achievement. All parts of this sample may be modified as desired.*

Research indicates that student achievement is often higher in schools with a positive climate. The School Council expects a positive and welcoming climate in their school, which is reflected through safe, well-managed classrooms and common areas, clearly stated high expectations about individual responsibility, and whose teachers and staff consistently acknowledge all students and fairly address students' behaviour.

School Climate refers to the social and environmental factors that contribute to students' experience of, and attitude towards, their school. School climate is related to how well students feel connected with others at their school. Without a positive school climate, students are unlikely to see their school as a place they feel welcomed, challenged and nurtured.

All members of the school community, including staff, students, administrators, School Council members and visitors are expected to serve as role models by demonstrating positive attitudes, cultural sensitivity, and respect to students and staff members, as well as community members. Staff shall use effective classroom management strategies to foster positive social interactions among students, and encourage and recognize activities that foster a positive school climate.

The school shall not tolerate any form of harassment, intimidation, or bullying that would interfere with there being a positive school climate. Students, staff administrators and school Council members who engage in these acts shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary procedures.

Cross-Reference:

--Yukon Education *Safe and Caring Schools Policy 1011 (2008)*