

Extracurricular Activities Policy



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SHELDON-WILLIAMS COLLEGIATE

Extracurricular Activities Policy

Rationale

The term “extracurricular” describes those activities that provide opportunities for students to explore and expand their skills or interests in the fine arts, athletic, cultural/social, leadership or technical areas. It is understood that these experience take place outside of the regular class time.

The mission statement located on the Sheldon-Williams seal is *Ad Vitam Paramus: Preparing for Life*. We have always believed that success in academic studies is our primary goal and focus. In addition, we recognize that student participation in athletics, the arts and other activities and clubs is an essential part of their high school experience.

This policy was developed to provide consistent guidelines for all involved in the extracurricular program. It outlines realistic expectations and logical consequences for students and clarifies the school’s position for staff, students and parent/guardians. The purpose of the policy is to be educative and proactive rather than restrictive, punitive and reactive. The primary focus is for students to remain successful in their studies and enjoy a high degree of success in the activity.

All students have access to a wide selection of activities that require varying commitments of their time. Students are expected to meet the time commitment expectations of the activity they participate in, maintain focus on their studies and be a positive representative of Sheldon-Williams Collegiate at all times.

The policy was created by the staff at Sheldon-Williams Collegiate and the Student Leadership Council. The policy will be reviewed annually to determine if revisions are required and shared with parents and students throughout each school year.

Requirements and Responsibilities

Attendance

1. Students must maintain regular attendance at all of their scheduled classes.
 - a) Students are ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities on days in which they do not attend their scheduled classes. In order for an exemption to apply, a parent/guardian must make contact with a school-based administrator on the day of the activity to authorize the absence.

- b) Except in the case of actual injury, students do not require recuperation or recovery time following participation in extracurricular activities. Missing classes the day after an activity may result in suspension of that student's eligibility to continue to participate in that extracurricular activity.

Academic

- 2. Students must maintain satisfactory academic progress.
 - a) The teacher responsible for the activity or a designate will monitor each student's academic progress. The monitoring process should be completed at least to times in each semester.
 - b) At any time during a semester, a student who has failed or is failing two classes or more MAY be placed on extra-curricular probation. During this time, a student's academic progress will be monitored and he/she will be allowed to continue to participate fully in the activity. It is hoped that the student will use these days to re-focus and renew their commitment to their studies.
 - c) If at the end of the probationary period the student is still failing two classes or more, then the student may be placed on extra-curricular suspension. The time for suspension can be reduced if the student has shown significant academic improvement. During extracurricular suspension, a student will not be able to participate in any aspect of the activity.
 - d) The *Eligibility Committee* will meet to discuss every extracurricular suspension.
 - e) If at the end of extracurricular suspension, the student is still failing 2 or more classes, then the student may be removed from the activity.
 - f) If a student is placed on extracurricular probation twice in the same school year, the *Eligibility Committee* will review the student's situation.

Commitment

- 3. Students must fulfill their commitments to extracurricular activities.
 - a) A student and the teacher advisor/coach of an activity may mutually agree to the withdrawal of a student from the activity without affecting the student's eligibility to participate in other activities.
 - b) If a student withdraws from an activity without consultation with the teacher advisor/coach, he/she may not be permitted to participate in an activity concurrent with the one discontinued. Furthermore, that student may be ruled ineligible to participate in another activity for the remainder of the school year.

Behavioural

4. Students of Sheldon-Williams Collegiate must demonstrate behaviour consistent with the values of the school within the classroom and at any school-related activity.
 - a) A student who behaves in a manner inconsistent with the values of Sheldon-Williams Collegiate or who brings discredit to the school will be reported to the *Eligibility Committee*. Such behaviour may result in suspension from participation in activities.
 - b) The use or possession of drugs or alcohol while on school premises or at any school related function will result in a review by the *Eligibility Committee* of the involved student's eligibility to participate in activities.

Monitoring and Consequences

5. The *Eligibility Committee* consists of the Principal (chair) Vice-Principal, as well as representatives from athletics and/or fine arts areas. They will meet to discuss:
 - i) Every extracurricular suspension.
 - ii) If a student is still failing two classes at the end of extracurricular suspension.
 - iii) If a student is placed on extracurricular probation twice in the same school year.
 - iv) At the discretion of the teacher advisor/coach, classroom teacher, and/or school- based administrator.

Distribution

6. The policy will be distributed in the following ways:
 - i) Advisory teachers will ensure students are aware of the Extracurricular Activities Policy. The policy is available on the school website under "***school documents***".
 - ii) Each teacher advisor/coach may distribute the policy to the students participating in their activity. A signed contract may also be requested.