• Synchronous learning – students will meet with their online teacher(s) daily. Teachers will communicate via email, when these times occur via a monthly newsletter.

• Asynchronous learning - students will engage in learning activities, similar to homework, throughout the day with caregiver support.

• Teachers may ask students to meet for small group and individual instructions as needed •

Teachers will follow the learning outcomes from Alberta Education's Programs of Study.

Assessment:

Throughout the school year, students will be assessed on the outcomes from the Program of Studies. Teachers will be using both formative and summative assessments to measure student understanding of concepts. Teachers will share assessment procedures with students and parents to ensure opportunities to demonstrate learning is fair and equitable.

Students in Grades 5-9 will be assessed through reading tools such as the Fountas & Pinnel benchmark system and through Math assessments such as the MIPI. These assessments are to determine the reading and math skills of all students to help teachers program appropriately for student needs.

Students in Grade 6 and 9 will be required to write the Provincial Achievement Tests at the end of their academic year. These tests will be administered in-person.

Monthly Field Trips:

The Virtual Academy plans monthly filed trips to enhance learning and are an important part of the academic experience. Students are representing the Virtual Academy when in the community. Our expectation is that students represent themselves and their school with the level of conduct communicated in the Student Code of Conduct.

SPVA Code of Student Conduct
https://www.sturgeon.ab.ca/board/procedures/4717"

Sturgeon Public Virtual Academy recognizes its responsibility to maintain a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning and working environment. In the interim of the school working together with students, parents/guardians, the school council and staff to develop a formal Code of Student Conduct, the following shall apply:

1. Students and their parents/guardians, as partners in education, have the responsibility to: ➢

attend school regularly and punctually:

• For synchronous learning time, this means cameras are on when the teacher is talking or the class is discussing, and microphones are off unless actively speaking.

• ensure the student is ready to learn and actively engage in and diligently pursue the student's education; including completion of assignments and homework,

• ensure that the student's conduct contributes to a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging,

• respect the rights of others in the school,

• refrain from, report and not tolerate bullying or bullying behaviour directed toward others in the school during the school day or by electronic means,

• be accountable to the student's teachers and other school staff for the student's conduct,

• fully cooperate with school authority and personnel authorized to provide educational programs and other services throughout the school day and during all school sponsored activities and beyond the hours of school operation if that behavior or conduct has a connection back to the school and a demonstrated detrimental impact on the welfare of individual students, and

• positively contribute to the student's school and community

2. Students will be held responsible and accountable to Sturgeon Public Virtual Academy for unacceptable behaviour whether it occurs during the school day or by electronic means.

3. Beyond school hours students will be held responsible for unacceptable behaviour if that behaviour has a connection back to the school and has a demonstrated detrimental impact on the welfare of other students or staff.
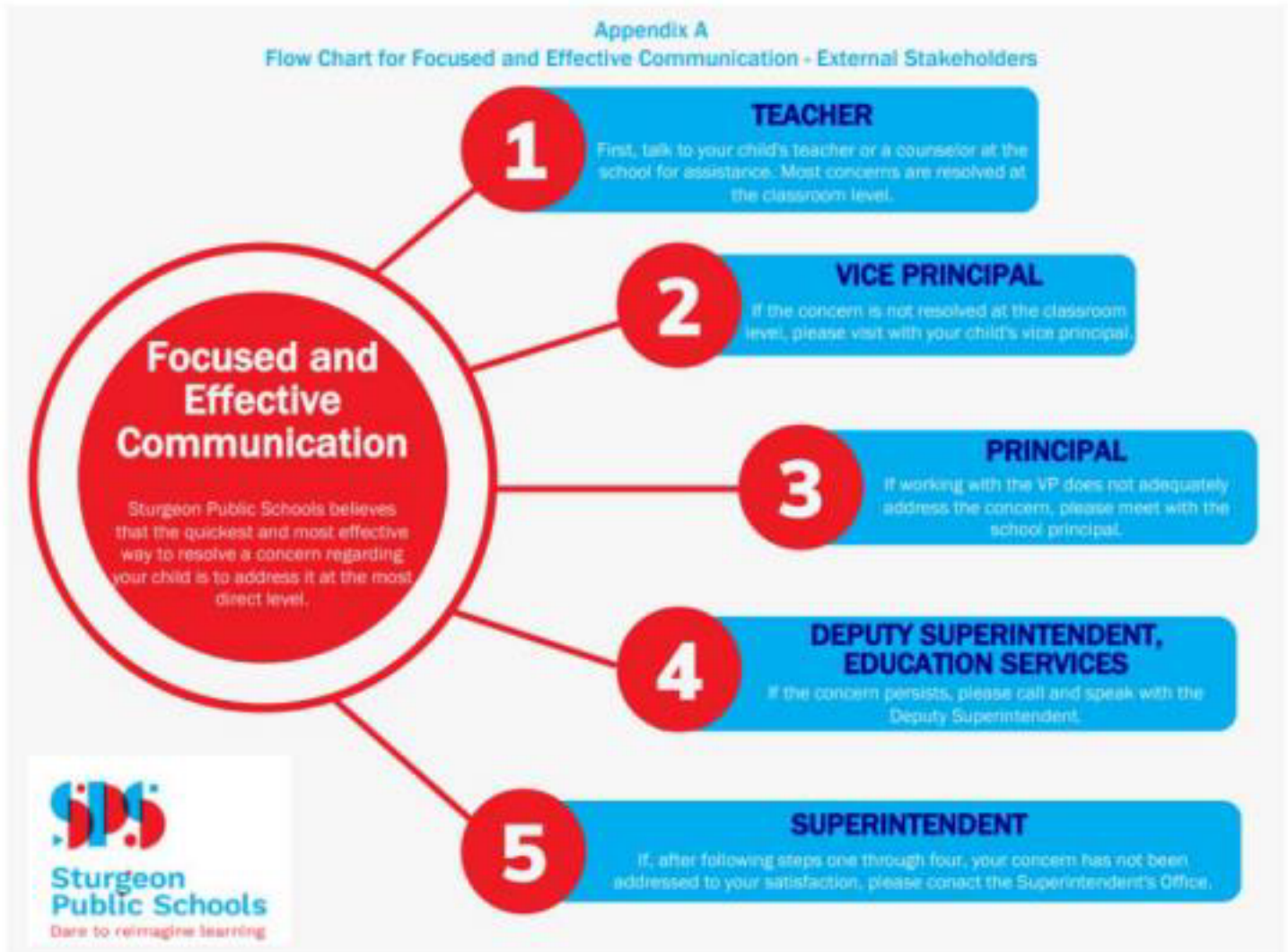
4. Consequences including intervention, suspension and/or recommendation for expulsion from school may be imposed when a student fails to meet the expectations for student conduct.

Staff are committed to supporting students achieve this conduct by:

1. Help the student identify inappropriate behaviour(s)

2. Help the student solve the problem(s) created by these behaviour(s)

3. Respect the student's dignity.

4. Share the Code of Conduct with students twice annually, in September and January.

5. Make the Code of Conduct accessible to families by sending out electronically in September and posting on the school website for easy access.

Factors such as age, grade, nature of the misbehaviour, degree of the situation, emotional stability, and past history will be considered when action is taken.

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities in Online Education:

As parents you are an important part of your child's education team, especially while your child is working in an online format. While working at home with your child you will have a lot of influence as they shape their attitude toward the importance of their education. As parents of a SPVA student, you will be in charge of supervising your child's learning throughout the day. Parents are to be present in the home during the school day should the child need help with attending their online class or if an emergency occurs.

The following are suggestions that will assist your child in building a positive attitude toward school and develop good work habits as the year progresses.

• See that your child is prepared to do their best by having a proper amount of sleep, nutritious food, and a proper work space.

o A proper work space should be a space that is well lit, distraction free, and is stocked with the supplies and resources they need to work productively.

o Students will need to have a computer, a headset (to help block out environmental noise) and a reliable internet connection. Their computer must have a camera and microphone, or a webcam with a microphone attached.

• Assist your child in building a daily routine which will include:

o attending their synchronous learning times (Google Meets) regularly and on time. Keep the school informed of any absences.

o using their asynchronous time to complete their assignments.

o assist your child with staying engaged in their studies. It can be easy for a child to get distracted by other technology such as video games, Youtube, etc

• Support your child in the completion of their assignments. Parents must be careful to avoid completing the work for their child/children. Children should be allowed the opportunity to go through the process of learning a concept, which may involve some struggle to master concepts.

o take the opportunity to check over your child's assignments to make sure they have completed the assignment to the best of their ability, and submitted their work by the due date.

o If your child does not understand a concept encourage them to reach out to their teacher for assistance.

o Keep open communication with your child's teacher.

o Follow your child's progress in PowerSchool.

• Consequences are part of learning. Please help your child learn from their mistakes by supporting staff response to behaviors your child may display.

• Please read the following link from Alberta Education that provides parents with information for each grade level. My Child's Learning: A Parent Resource

• Please check out the following link that provides information specifically to online learning in Alberta, information on digital citizenship and online learning readiness https://open.alberta.ca/publications/9781460139431

• The following link is a resource to help parents become savvy with the internet and learn why this is important .http://www.humanservices.alberta.ca/internetsafety/internetsavvy.html

Bullying, Harassing, Discriminatory and Aggressive behaviours

A welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe learning environment for all students and school staff will be one that is free from bullying, harassing, discrimination or violent behaviour. To achieve this at our school all students, staff, parents, and guests will;

• Model respectful conduct, inclusive behaviour and an understanding and appreciation for diversity, equity and human rights.

• Refrain from, report and refuse to tolerate bullying or bullying behaviour, even if it happens outside of school hours or electronically.

• Inform an adult you trust in a timely manner of incidents of bullying, harassment, intimidation or other safety concerns in the school.

When concerns arise relating to bullying, harassment, discrimination, aggressive behavior, or conflict it is expected that students, staff, parents, and guests will communicate directly with the authority most closely involved. This staff member will investigate and respond to the concern promptly. They will also relate the incident and any actions carried out to our school administration.

What is Bullying?
Bullying: repeated and hostile or demeaning behaviour by an individual in the school community where the behaviour is intended to cause harm, fear or distress to one or more individuals in the school community, including psychological harm or harm to an individual's reputation.

What Bullying is Not:
Bullying behaviour is not the same as hurting someone's feelings if there is no misuse of power or a deliberate intent to cause harm. Bullying behaviour is sometimes confused with conflict. Conflict is a disagreement about different beliefs, ideas, feelings or actions.

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Human Rights

All students, staff, parents, and guests share responsibility for proactively creating and maintaining welcoming, caring, respectful, safe and inclusive learning environments that acknowledge and promote understanding, respect and the
recognition of the diversity, equity, inclusion and human rights of all students and families within the school community.

Any language or behavior that degrades, labels, stereotypes, incites hatred, prejudice, discrimination and harassment towards students, staff, or families on the basis of their real or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression will not be tolerated. Student offences will be dealt with as outlined
in our Code of Student Conduct. Parents, community members, or other guests at the school who engage in this behavior or language will be dealt with directly by school administration and may be asked to leave online gatherings or meetings.

Each year, Sturgeon Public Virtual Academy staff will evaluate our websites, learning resources, and our common practices to ensure they support the safety, health, well-being and educational needs of students who identify as, or are perceived to be,
gender minorities. We will also strive to promote critical thinking and include age-appropriate materials that accurately reflect the diversity of Canada's sexual and gender minority families, cultures, and communities.

SPVA Dress Code and Study Area Guidelines

In keeping with the philosophy of Alberta Education, we at Sturgeon Public Virtual Academy strive to help our students become productive citizens who are ready to pursue high school and eventually careers in the workforce. As a result, students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that demonstrates respect and to dress appropriately for a school/work setting.