



## Cód Iómpar agus Smachta

There has been a code of behaviour in effect in this school for a long time. Following a review by staff, Board of Management and Coiste na dTuismitheoirí. Below is the revised policy. This policy follows the national guidelines as devised by The National Education Welfare Board. (N.E.W.B.)

### It is the duty of this school to:

- Educate the children in our school
- Prepare them for the life which is ahead of them
- Help them to grow up as good citizens
- Have respect for their country, their native language and every aspect of Irish culture.

We also encourage children to have respect for

- their peers
- the teachers in the school
- the authorities and their parents.
  
- Regular co-operation and communication between the school authorities and parents is encouraged.
  
- It is this positive co-operation between the school management, Principal, teachers and parents that will create a positive learning environment for everyone.
  
- All children will be treated equally however no child has the right to disrupt the work of the teacher or the work of other pupils.
  
- It is expected that all parents will co-operate with the teachers and the school management for the sake of their own children.

### Board of Management's Responsibilities

- Provide a comfortable, safe environment.
- Support the Principal and staff in implementing the code.
- Ratify the code.

### **Principal's responsibilities**

- Promote a positive climate in the school.
- Ensure that the Code of behaviour is implemented in as fair and consistent manner.
- Arrange for review of the Code, as required.

### **Teacher's Responsibilities**

- Support and implement the school's code of behaviour.
- Create a safe working environment for each pupil.
- Recognise and affirm good work.
- Prepare school work and correct work done by pupils.
- Recognise and provide for individual talents and differences among pupils.
- Be courteous, consistent and fair.
- Keep opportunities for disruptive behaviour to a minimum.
- Deal appropriately with misbehaviour.
- Keep a record of instances of serious misbehaviour or repeated incidences of misbehaviour.
- Provide support for colleagues.
- Communicate with parents when necessary and provide reports on matters of mutual concern.

### **Pupils responsibilities**

- Attend school regularly and punctually.
- Listen to their teachers and act on instructions / advice.
- Show respect for all members of the school community.
- Respect all school property and the property of other pupils
- Avoid behaving in any way which would endanger others.
- Avoid all nasty remarks, swearing and name-calling.
- Include other pupils in games and activities.
- Bring correct materials / books to school.
- Follow school and class rules.

### **Parents' / Guardians' Responsibilities**

- Meeting with Teachers : Please make an appointment through the office if a meeting is required with a teacher or the principal. A problem should first be discussed with the class teacher. Parents should make appointments to meet with the class teachers via the office. Other communication should take the form of a note in the journal. Meetings are not facilitated during school contact time. Please inform the school if unable to keep an appointment.
- If you are visiting the school please check in with the office first.
- Sign children in and out of school if outside of normal reception / dismissal times.
- Encourage children to have a sense of respect for themselves and property.
- Ensure that children attend regularly and punctually and inform the school of any reasons for absences.
- Be interested in, support and encourage their children's school work.

- Be familiar with the code of behaviour and support its implementation.
- Co-operate with teachers in instances where their child's behaviour is causing difficulties for others.
- Communicate with school in relation to any problems which may affect child's progress / behaviour.
- Equip children with appropriate school materials and full uniform.
- Be courteous towards pupils and staff.
- Supervise their young children on school premises when collecting other pupils or visiting the school.
- Refrain from entering the classroom unaccompanied.
- Refrain from bringing family pets/dogs into the school yard (even if on a lead).
- As the Board of Management is responsible for the Health and Safety of all staff and students, parents are requested not to approach or reprimand another person's child on the school premises.
- No smoking on school premises / yard or at any school activity.

### Strategies:

Every effort is made to ensure this code is enacted in a positive way where the emphasis is always on praise of our pupils. We use the following strategies to target individual children, groups, whole class and the whole school. **"Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí"**.

- **Moladh ó bhéil** (*A quiet word or gesture to show approval*)
- **Moladh scríofa i gcóipleabhar an pháiste** (*A comment in a pupil's copybook*)
- **Moladh ó mhúinteoir eile, leas phríomhoide, Príomhoide** (*Words of praise from other staff members, Deputy Principal, Principal*)
- **Moladh a thabhairt os comhair grúpa/daoine eile** (*A word of praise in front of a group or class*)
- **Pribhléid/Freagracht Speisialta a thabhairt** (*Delegating some special responsibility or privilege*)
- **Moladh a thabhairt do pháiste os comhair tuismitheoir/caomhnóir** (*Praising a child in front of a parent/guardian*)
- **Nóta molta a scríobh sa dialann obair bhaile** (*A note of praise written in child's school diary*)

Good behaviour is always praised and we remind the children (with the support of their parents) how important it is to be fair and just with each other and have respect for every teacher / staff member they are dealing with.

### Reward Systems:

A reward system is in place in the school to recognise good behaviour, improvements made and doing your best.

This includes:

- teacher praising child publicly
- teacher/school bringing good behaviour to the attention of parents
- Duaiseanna agus Dreasachtaí (*Rewards & Incentives*)

Seo a leanas samplaí de dhuaisanna agus dreasachtaí I láthair na huaire (*The following are examples of reward systems currently in use in our school*):

**Bun Ranganna (Junior Classes):**

- sticéirí (*stickers*),
- suaitheantas (*merit badge*),
- teastas (*certificate*),
- réaltaí ar chairt / ar an gclár bán idirghníomhach (*star charts / group charts on interactive white board*),
- am órga (*golden time*),
- saor shúgradh (*free play*),
- cartúin TG4 (*TG4 cartoons*),
- duaiseanna do ghrúpa/páistí aonair (*group/individual awards*),
- Cainteoir na Seachtaine,
- bosca draíochta (*prize box*).

**Meán Ranganna (Middle Classes):**

- sticéirí & réaltaí (*stickers in journals/copies*),
- córas ar líne m.sh. Class Dojo (*Class Dojo – online reward system*),
- pas obair bhaile saor (*homework off passes*),
- ticéid do chrannchur (*tickets for weekly draw*),
- am órga (*golden time*),
- am iPads (*iPad time*),
- Gaeilgeoir na Seachtaine,
- bosca duaiseanna (*prize box*),
- bÁCáil (*baking*).

**Ard Ranganna (Senior Classes)**

- Gaeilgeoir na Seachtaine,
- pas obair bhaile saor (*homework off passes*),
- am órga (*golden time*),
- iPads (*iPad time*),
- cluichí boird (*board games*),
- bÁCáil (*baking*).

- It is accepted that no two children are the same in terms of ability, individual needs, personality and background however it is recognised that the emphasis on a code of behaviour must be positive, promoting good behaviour.
- It is made clear each year to the children and their parents what standards of behaviour are expected from children while they are in school. When these standards are not met there is a discipline system in place in the school.

**1. An cur chuige sa Rang (*Classroom Strategies*):**

There are class rules in each class making it clear to each pupil what behaviour is expected from them and what is not tolerated. These rules are based on what is expected from the children to contribute to a positive learning environment and are graded depending on age and class.

They include:

- Speaking Irish
- letting the teacher teach
- letting the other children in the class learn in a safe environment
- doing your work to the best of your ability
- being mannerly and fair to everybody

Each class teacher will have a class discipline system to deal with the breaking of the class rules.

### **Unsatisfactory behaviour is dealt with by:**

#### **A. Plé:**

Dul chun réasúin leis an dalta go ciúin

*Discussion: Reasoning with the pupil quietly.*

#### **B. Comhairle:**

Comhairle a leasa a chur ar an dalta agus tagairt a dhéanamh do rialacha an ranga.

*Advice: Advise pupil regarding appropriate behaviour and making reference to class rules.*

#### **C. Geallúint:**

Tugann an páiste geallúint ó bhéil, tréan iarracht a n-iompar a fheabhsú.

*Promise: Pupil promises to make a greater effort to improve/work on their behaviour.*

#### **D. Conradh Sínithe:**

I Ranganna 2-6 síníonn an pháiste conradh. Is foirm taifead é seo do gheallúint an pháiste. Léiríonn sé go bhfuil an leanbh sásta/ullamh chun an iompar a fheabhsú.

Signed contract of behaviour: This is a record of the child's willingness to work on future behaviour and demonstrates their commitment to improving his / her behaviour.

### **Idirghabháil an Phríomhoide (Intervention of Principal):**

#### **A. Comhairle:**

- Comhrá leis an dalta
- Ceartúcháin.

*Advice:*

- *General talk/discussion with the pupil.*
- *Reprimanding.*

#### **B. Smachtbhannaí:**

1. Foláireamh ó bhéal a thabhairt.
2. Pribhléidí a bhaint de/di.
3. Tuairisc a choimeád ar drochiompar tromchúiseach.

*Advice:*

1. *Pupil is reminded, cautioned and corrected.*
2. *Loss of privileges.*
3. *Serious misbehaviour is recorded.*

## **2. An Cur chuige sa chlós ( Behaviour on the yard):**

There are specific rules for when the children are out in the yard at sos beag and lón mór (see Polasaí Clós.) Again they are based on what behaviour is expected from children playing in the yard together.

Children are expected to:

- take a break
- play fairly
- speak Irish at all times
- have respect for fellow students and staff

Each time a student breaks one of these rules the teacher on duty in the yard will speak to him/her. The class teacher/Principal will be informed where appropriate and the child will be reminded of the behaviour that is expected from him/her in the future.

In the case where there is no improvement in the behaviour of the child and he/she continues to break class/yard rules, the Principal will be informed and his/her support will be given to try to improve the attitude or behaviour of the child. Parents will be contacted as appropriate

## **3. School outings, sports activities etc:**

This code of conduct remains in place while children are on school tours, playing matches and participating in other school activities.

### **The Decision of the Principal:**

In the case of a minor misdemeanour the Principal will discuss the misdemeanour with the child. He/she will be asked to write lines or do written work in a copy book to remind him/her of what behaviour is not acceptable and how they should behave. This written work must be signed by a parent/guardian to let the Principal know that they are aware of the behaviour involved and we expect that the parent will advise the child on appropriate behaviour in school.

Examples of minor misdemeanours:

- Interrupting class work
- Arriving late for school
- Leaving litter around the school
- Not wearing the correct uniform
- Being discourteous / unmannerly
- Not completing homework without good reason
- Being inside the school building during break times or after 2.30pm without permission

Examples of serious misdemeanours:

- Persistent refusal to speak Irish
- being disrespectful to a teacher/member of staff
- threatening violence to another child (this shall be recorded on a separate file)
- Bullying (see Anti Bullying Policy)
- Fighting
- Consistent and persistent disruption of class
- Telling lies

- Stealing
- Damaging other pupil's property
- Using unacceptable language
- Using a mobile phone during the school day.

Examples of Gross misdemeanours:

- Leaving the school premises during the school day without appropriate permission
- Acts of Greivous Bodily Harm to a staff member and/ or pupil. It is important to note that the school will decide whether a behavior will come under this definition.
- Willful damage to school property
- Aggressive, threatening or verbally abusive behavior towards a member of staff or another pupil
- Any use of cigarettes, alcohol or other drugs in school or on school grounds.

These lists are not exhaustive and other behaviours may be considered as minor/major / gross misdemeanours at the discretion of the class teacher / principal / Board of Management.

When a child is deemed to have carried out 3 major misdemeanours, the parents will be contacted to discuss their son's/daughter's behaviour and to get their support in securing a promise from the child that he/she will improve their behaviour.

***The Principal may contact parents at any stage of this process if he/she feels the child's behaviour warrants this and parents will be requested to meet the Principal.***

- This meeting will take place at a time that suits the Principal, the class teacher and the parents but should happen as quickly as possible following an incident. Following such a meeting the child will be asked to sign a behavioural contract.
- If the poor behaviour persists the parents will be contacted again and requested to attend a meeting. The Cathaoirleach will be present at the meeting. Again the child will have to sign a behavioural contract.
- We will offer every help and support to children with behavioural difficulties and to their parents and their class teacher. This will be done through discussion, advice, speaking and listening to the appropriate people/services.

Additional support will be sought from

- Home School Liason Co-ordinator
- School completion facilitator
- Mater Child and Mental Health Services
- Tusla
- N.E.P.s etc

### **Incidents of bullying**

- will be dealt with on the spot
- will be investigated following the steps laid out in our anti-bullying policy
- parents will be informed

A child deemed to be guilty of bullying will be taken from the class/yard/school – depending on the seriousness of the incident – until the matter has been dealt with, an apology has been given and a promise regarding future behaviour has been made.

**Suspension / Expulsion:**

Before resorting to serious sanctions such as suspension the normal channels of communication between school and parents will be utilized. Parents will be involved at an early stage rather than as a last resort.

**Suspension and expulsion shall be dealt with following the national guidelines as set in the Guidelines for Schools on developing a code of behaviour. (Chapters 10 – 12)**

The Board authorises the Principal to sanction an immediate suspension if deemed appropriate.

In the unlikely event of a repeated need to exclude a student it will be done on a phased basis:

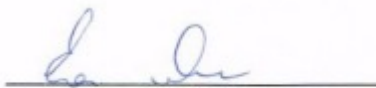
Stage 1 – excluded for a single day x 3 times

Stage 2 - excluded for 3 days x 3 times – this will be done in consultation with the chairperson of the Board of Management and the deputy principal.

Stage 2 - excluded for 5 days x 3 times – approval will be sought from the Board of Management.

It is accepted and clear that this discipline policy applies to all school children (pupils) while they are in school and also while participating in after school activities both within and outside of the school premises.

This policy shall be reviewed and revised when deemed necessary by the school staff/school management.



*Eoin Dolan*

*Cathaoirleach (Chairperson)*



*Deirdre Ní Chonghaile*

*Príomhoide (Principal)*

Dáta: 29.05.24