

St Teresa's Primary School (Tullyherron)



Discipline & Positive Behaviour Policy

Prepared by: Principal and staff

Discussed with: Whole School Staff Members

Agreed on: 18/02/2016

To be reviewed on: 02/2018

INTRODUCTION

Our school is a community of children, governors, teachers, classroom assistants, supervisory assistants, parents and other adults. A community functions best if there is a mutual respect between all members and an agreed code of conduct which provides the background against which all activities take place. We aim to provide a happy, safe environment in which our pupils will thrive and make good progress academically, creatively, physically, socially and morally. We have a duty therefore to promote good behaviour and discipline in our school. Pupils, parents and teachers have been consulted in the review of this policy.

In almost all cases of pupils with behavioural difficulties the most likely cause - and therefore the issue, which needs addressing most - is the pupils' low self-esteem. Pupils - and indeed adults - need to feel secure, happy, valued and wanted if they are to develop a positive self-image, be well-adjusted socially and emotionally and, consequently, realise their true potential. At the back of this folder please find enclosed a booklet with ideas on raising your child's self-esteem.

At St. Teresa's P.S. we aim:

To have a disciplined, caring and happy environment conducive to learning;

To enhance the pupils' self-esteem and foster self-respect and respect for others;

To encourage the pupils to develop independence by accepting the need for self-discipline and self-control and taking responsibility for their own behaviour;

To develop the pupils' interpersonal skills and their ability to work co-operatively with others to resolve problems and conflict;

To respect the rights and property of others;

To listen and cooperate with each other;

To be kind and helpful;

To tell the truth;

To take responsibility for our actions.

GUIDELINES

All adults working on the premises are responsible for discipline, setting a good example and ensuring good patterns of behaviour throughout the school.

Children will be encouraged to work and play together showing consideration for the needs and feelings of others.

Good classroom organisation and management are essential to good order. Boredom, lack of understanding and lack of progress can be major reasons for misbehaviour.

Good staff/pupil relationships are essential. Children must feel able to approach staff with their problems.

Children, staff, parents and governors must understand and be fully aware of the defined codes of behaviour (rules), sanctions and rewards structure.

Parents should have the opportunity to voice any concerns with staff.

CLASSROOM DISCIPLINE

Discipline is the responsibility of every teacher in the school. Each teacher shares the responsibility for discipline throughout the school and is solely responsible for the discipline in his/her classroom.

Good discipline is essential for effective learning to take place. In order that this goal be achieved we will try to implement the following strategies:

1. Ensure that pupils of different abilities are given appropriate tasks where they can achieve success;
2. Make lessons enjoyable and challenging where children feel able to concentrate;
3. Use positive rather than negative language to communicate expectations and feedback to pupils;
4. Give regular praise and encouragement to pupils;
5. Praise disruptive children when their behaviour becomes acceptable.
6. Establish some classroom rules.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR POLICY

At St. Teresa's P.S. we have clear behaviour policy and the children know that good behaviour is expected from them all at all times. We have the view that behaviour is a choice.

- Good discipline helps develop responsible attitudes and values for life;
- Effective learning can only take place in an atmosphere where standards of good behaviour exist;
- Good discipline is concerned with the safety and well-being of each individual child.

Good discipline is based on:

- Respect for self;
- Respect for other children;
- Respect for adults;
- Respect for property;
- Respect for the environment.

REWARDS

A system of rewards and incentives are applied with consistency by all the staff. This helps to establish and maintain a climate in which pupils come to appreciate what constitutes acceptable behaviour and positive attitudes. All pupils have a need for positive affirmation and therefore acceptable behaviour and positive attitudes are regularly celebrated within our school.

In September 2011 we introduced a positive reward system "Pupil of the Week."

Pupil of the Week, our positive behaviour system will involve a pupil from each class being chosen by their class teacher at the weekly assembly "Pupil of the Week" for following our Golden Rules. These children will receive a certificate, their photograph will be displayed in the entrance hall, they will be given other rewards by their class teacher, including a homework pass to use on an evening of their choice.

Our Golden Rules are:

- To be kind to each other;
- Listen to each other;
- Play fairly and safely;
- Tell the truth;
- Do our best.

Praise can also be given to children in other ways, eg:

- A quiet word;
- An encouraging smile;
- A written comment on a child's work;
- A visit to another teacher or the principal for commendation;
- A public word of praise in front of the group or class;
- Rewarding good effort or neat work with stickers etc.

Clearly parents have a duty to ensure that their child does not cause harm, injury or damage to others or to any property or the environment.

Parents are therefore asked to promote and support the general policy and rules of discipline.

In particular, the co-operation of parents is sought in relation to:

- Maintaining good attendance;
- Punctuality;
- Wearing school uniform;
- Caring for school books, equipment, etc;
- Good behaviour on the bus;
- Completing set homework.

SANCTIONS

Sanctions are an integral part of our school's discipline policy. They provide pupils with the security of clearly defined boundaries and, in doing so, they encourage appropriate and acceptable behaviour.

We as a staff believe that sanctions should not be applied to entire classes, when the guilty parties have not been identified.

Sanctions should:

- Be fully understood by all staff (teaching and non-teaching), pupils and parents;
- Be applied by the staff in a fair and consistent manner;
Be applied as soon after the offence as possible, not impulsively, but in a calm and controlled manner;
- Take account of the age and degree of maturity of the pupil and any special educational needs he or she may have, the home background and any other relevant circumstances.

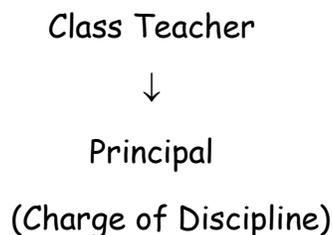
Sanctions will include:

- A look of disapproval;
- A verbal reprimand;
- Asking a child to apologise;
- Loss of privileges, i.e. miss 5 minutes of playtime. If unacceptable behaviour continues, miss 10 minutes playtime/sit outside class for 15 minutes monitored by Classroom Assistant..
- Completion of additional work to complement or reinforce current studies (not lines).
- Restriction of access to extra curricular facilities or off site activities (e.g. swimming).

If unacceptable behaviour continues:

- Go to another assigned class for rest of session. Miss 15 minutes of next playtime. The child would then return to their class with a chance to choose the appropriate behaviour;
- Individual class teacher may choose to speak to parents at the end of school day;
- Referral to Principal;
- Incident recorded in Principal's Discipline Book;
- Formal parental consultation.

Referral system is as follows;



- Circle time programme will be used as an opportunity to consider group and individual behaviour and its effect on others;
- Pupils may be offered counselling with a member of staff to discuss their behaviour;
- A pupil whose behaviour in school regularly gives cause for concern may be referred to the SENCO for monitoring. I.E.P.s will be drawn up. These I.E.P.s will include behavioural targets. These termly individual targets will be reviewed at the end of each term. The SENCO will discuss these targets with parents so that they can become actively involved in securing and maintaining their children's good behaviour in school;
- In very difficult cases, after consultation with parents, advice may be sought from external support services such as Educational Psychologist. and Behavioural Management Team;
- In severe cases the principal may suspend a pupil in accordance with the procedures set out by CCMS.

CONCLUSION

- Responsibility for the behaviour of all children in St. Teresa's Primary School is one which all staff share;
- The general standard of behaviour both within and outside school is excellent;
- We are very proud of the fact that visitors to the school often comment on the good behaviour and politeness of our children;
- In conclusion, we would ask you, the parents, to work as closely as possible with the Principal, teachers and ancillary staff in promoting good behaviour at all times.

It is our clear intention to review and amend our Discipline Policy when appropriate.

REVIEW

The Discipline/Behaviour policy should take account of current needs and therefore should be reviewed on an annual basis. All staff, pupils and governors will contribute to this review. Where significant changes are contemplated parents will be consulted.

ST. TERESA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL TULLYHERRON

SCHOOL RULES

1. School starts at 8.35 am.
2. Children should **WALK** at all times inside the school.
3. Dinner money/milk money should be paid on Monday mornings if possible.
4. School meals/lunches should be eaten quietly.
5. After lunch or playtime, children should line up and wait for their teacher in silence.
6. Children should not play rough or dangerous games, eg fighting, tripping etc.
7. Children are forbidden to eat or bring chewing gum to school at any time.
8. Children should be on their very best behaviour at all times on the bus or coach and must remain in their seats and wear their seat belts at all times.
9. Children should respect and obey the instructions of all adults associated with the school, eg teachers, supervisory assistants, bus drivers, ancillary staff, etc.
10. Wearing of earrings (other than studs) is forbidden in the interests of Health and Safety.
11. No dyeing of hair - **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES**. Natural hairstyle only acceptable at all times. Violation of this rule will result in child being sent home immediately.
12. Children are encouraged to eat fruit for their break. Fizzy drinks are forbidden at all times. There should be no drinks in glass bottles.
13. Children are expected to go out to the playground at play-time and lunch-time.
14. Children must show great respect for:
 - Each other;
 - The property of others;
 - The school environment - **NO LITTERING**.
15. Pupils are forbidden to have mobile phones in school.
16. Swearing and use of bad language is forbidden at all times.
17. Children should bring a note to request or explain:
 - Late arrival;
 - Absences from school;
 - Staying in at play-time or lunch-time;
 - Going home early;
 - Visits to dentist/doctor/hospital/optician, etc;
 - Changes in the homeward journey.
18. No electronic games, DS, Gameboys, PSP etc are allowed in school.
19. At home-time, all children must line up ready to be escorted to the bus.