

CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

Scoil Bhríde, Kill, Co. Kildare

ETHOS OF THE SCHOOL

The aim of our school is:

To foster and develop Christian attitudes in all our pupils.

To help each child to develop educationally, socially and emotionally to his or her maximum potential.

To develop in each child a high level of self-esteem and confidence.

To help each child to become good citizens of this country and of the world.

To pass on an agreed body of knowledge in all areas of the curriculum.

To create a friendly secure and happy environment for learning.



To achieve these aims we need a Code of Behaviour which will reinforce good behaviour through the use of rewards and which provides sanctions for those who do not abide by the Code.

In devising the code, consideration has been given to the particular needs and circumstances of this school. The aim is to ensure that the individuality of each child is accommodated while acknowledging the right of each child to education in a relatively disruption free environment.

Every effort will be made by all members of staff to adopt a positive approach to the question of behaviour in the school. The code offers a framework within which positive techniques of motivation and encouragement are utilised by teachers.

The school places greater emphasis on rewards than on sanctions in the belief that this will, in the long term, give best results.

All efforts will be made to match the curriculum to the abilities, aptitudes and interests of each pupil.

Every effort will be made to have an emotionally disturbed child referred for psychological assessment without delay. Help will be sought also from support services within the wider community, e.g. Community Care Services provided by the Health Board.

In the belief that the most effective schools tend to be those with the best relationships with parents, every effort will be made by the Principal and staff to ensure that parents are kept well informed, that the school provides a welcoming atmosphere towards parents and that parents are not only told when their children are in trouble but when they have behaved particularly well.

The overall responsibility for discipline within the school rests with the Principal. Each teacher has responsibility for the maintenance of discipline within his/her classroom while sharing a common responsibility for good order within the school premises.

The rules are kept to a minimum and are positively stated in terms of what pupils should do.

School Rules

1. **BE ON TIME** - This rule means that you turn up in time for school each morning and that you line up in time after each break.
2. **BE PREPARED** - This rule means that you come to school with everything you need for the day e.g. all your home work done, all your books, your pens, pencils etc. Also that you have your full uniform on or your tracksuit if it is P.E. day.
3. **BE HONEST** - This rule means that you always tell the truth no matter what circumstances you are in.
4. **BE HELPFUL** - This rule means that you always try to be kind to those around you and that you help them in any way you can. It is the opposite of being selfish or being a bully.
5. **BE CAREFUL** - This rule means that you should try to avoid any behaviour that could be dangerous or lead to an accident e.g. playing roughly, fighting, leaving the school premises without permission, cycling in the yard, running too fast, running indoors etc.
6. **BRING ONLY WHAT YOU NEED** - This rule means that you don't bring anything in to school that you don't need for the days work. You should not have anything that could be a distraction to others or that could cause damage to another pupil or to the school furniture e.g. glass bottles, crisps, chewing gum etc.
7. **DO YOUR BEST** - This rule means that you try to always do your best at any task you are given in school e.g. it means that you pay attention in class, do your best at your lessons, if you are asked to do a job in school that you do it willingly and cheerfully.
8. **SHOW RESPECT** - This rule means that you show respect and consideration towards everybody that you meet during the day e.g. your teachers, your fellow pupils, parents, visitors to the school etc. It also means that you show respect for the school building and school furniture.

SYSTEM OF REWARDS

Praise from teacher for good behaviour or for a job well done.

Praise from the Principal in the classroom or in assemblies.

Prize from the teacher / principal.

Occasional treats for individuals or classes.

SANCTIONS

Teacher and pupil discuss the incident, nature of misbehaviour is pointed out and advice is given as to how to improve the behaviour.

Child may be separated from peers, put sitting on his/her own.

Extra work may be prescribed.

Child may be sent to another teacher for a short period.

Child may be brought to the Principal and incident discussed.

Note may be sent home by the teacher or Principal.

Child may be "booked" by the Principal, this means that the nature of the incident is recorded in an incident book in the Principal's Office and the child is given extra work, which must be returned to the principal. The parents of the pupil booked are informed in writing of the booking and the reason for it.

If the child is "booked" in this manner three times his/her parents will be requested to come in to the school to discuss his/her behaviour with the Principal.

If the problems continue the child may be suspended with the permission of the Board of Management in accordance with Rule 130 of the Rules for National Schools.

In the case of serious misbehaviour / dangerous / aggressive behaviour, the Principal may bypass this procedure and ask the Chairman of the Board of Management to suspend any child guilty of same.

This code will be reviewed at regular intervals.