



Curragh Community College: Student Code of Behaviour

Introduction:

The Board of Management of Curragh Community College has agreed this Code of Behaviour as a means to adopt a co-ordinated response to student behaviour. It is intended to illustrate standards of behaviour and co-operation expected of all students and to inform students, their parents and guardians how the school will respond to both positive and negative behaviours.

The Board of Management recognises, with pride, that student behaviour in this school is normally very positive. Our students respect themselves, the school staff and the world around them and display maturity and concern for others in their dealings within and for the school.

This Student Code of Behaviour was developed and approved by the Board of Management, as a result of an on-going review of current policy and practice and bearing in mind the views of internal school management, school teaching staff, the Parents' Working Group and the Student Council.

As part of the enrolment both the student and his/her parent(s)/guardians(s) will be given a copy of this Code of Behaviour. Furthermore, they will be expected to sign a statement that they accept the Code of Behaviour and that they respect and support the rights of the school to reward positive behaviour and respond to negative behaviour in accordance with the Code itself. The parent(s) / guardians(s), in signing their acceptance of the Code, agree to make all reasonable efforts to ensure compliance with the code by the child involved. Failure to sign and return the aforementioned form and/or accept the conditions attached may lead to a delay or a refusal on the school's part to enrol the student. The student must also sign the document and in so doing agree to adhere to the Code of Behaviour.

Please see the live Curragh Community College Admission's Policy.

Each teacher in the school takes a positive interest in the welfare of our students. Promotion of positive behaviour is led by the Relate Team in Curragh Community College, and all members of the school community have a role in ensuring each student, class, teacher, parent or Board Members meets the expectations.



Curragh Community College: Student Code of Behaviour

Section 1: Scope and Aims of Code of Behaviour

Scope of Code of Behaviour

This Code of Behaviour deals exclusively with student behaviour while in school, on the way to and from school, on the school premises and on all school related activities, while students are under the care and instruction of any member of school staff, in both Ireland and abroad.

Aims of Code of Behaviour

This Code of Behaviour aims to inform students as to how they are expected to conduct themselves and how their adherence or non - adherence to the school's rules will be dealt with. It also aims to inform parents / guardians of how students are expected to behave and how those who behave in accordance with the school's rules and those who break the school's rules may be dealt with by teachers, Year Heads, the Deputy Principal, the Principal and, in a limited number of cases, the Board of Management.

The Student Code of Behaviour of Curragh Community College aims to

- Facilitate teaching and learning by positive, reflective and fair approaches
- Ensure the safety of all members of the school community on the school premises and when taking part in school activities
- By promoting good behaviour to help students develop excellent behaviour and encourage self-discipline
- Put in place reflective structures to help staff to deal with incidents of misbehaviour that may arise
- To deal fairly with students who are disruptive, affecting their own progress and/or the progress of other students using positive behaviour strategies
- Meet the school's legal obligations re Codes of Behaviour, etc.
- Inform students and their parents/guardians of the school's discipline procedures

In dealing with students, teachers should take cognisance of the students' social, environmental and cultural context, as well as their emotional needs, psychological needs and specific educational and learning needs.



Curragh Community College: Student Code of Behaviour

The Student Code of Behaviour of Curragh Community College will be reviewed regularly, as directed by the Board of Management. At each stage of the Code's development and subsequent review, there will be a systematic, reflective approach which aims to

- Incorporate the input of all partners to the code, including teachers, students and parents/guardians
- Monitor the impact of the Code on student behaviour.

Relationship to Mission Statement:

Curragh Community College's Mission Statement is as follows:

Mission Statement

Curragh Community College is a vibrant and diverse learning community, fostering a culture of care and respect amongst our students, parents/guardians and staff in a safe and inclusive space. With the support of our Board of Management, our students are challenged to engage with a rich variety of learning experiences and to develop the skills necessary to reach their full potential, while experiencing a strong sense of belonging and pride in our school. We encourage all members of our school community to express their individuality in an environment that celebrates our core values of care, community, equality, respect and excellence in education. It is our school's mission to challenge and support our students to build resilience and confidence, to become the best versions of themselves.

Section 2: The Student Code of Behaviour in Context

Discipline:

Our teachers adopt a positive attitude in dealing with students. A positive atmosphere in school is necessary to create an effective teaching and learning environment. Resilience and self-regulation is emphasised. Regular contact between our school and parents/guardians is an important part of implementing the Code of Behaviour.



Curragh Community College: Student Code of Behaviour

Ethos



Curragh Community College is a caring school striving to promote the spirit of community and equality. The school is dedicated to fostering educational excellence and earnestly endeavours to empower all students to reach their full potential - academic and social, physical and spiritual, moral and intellectual in an atmosphere of respect.

Through partnership and co-operation, the staff of Curragh Community College respects and nurtures the dignity and uniqueness of each individual. Our ethos is guided by the KWETB ethos.

The school aims to prepare students for public examinations, in an age when academic qualifications are indispensable for admission to further education and entry into employment.

The school recognises that its students are of varying cultural and social backgrounds and have a wide variety of aspirations and abilities. The school embraces the vital role that parents and guardians play in the overall education for their children. The school also recognises the importance of the community in which the student lives.

Board Of Management's Role:

The Board of Management oversees the operation of the school's Code of Behaviour. The Board of Management is responsible for initiating the development and review of the Code of Behaviour prior to annual ratification.



Curragh Community College: Student Code of Behaviour

In the case of any appeals against disciplinary decisions made by in-school management, the Board of Management will give fair consideration to such appeals by parents / guardians or students over 18 years of age.

In the case of appeals against exclusion of more than 5 days, parents/guardians may appeal in writing to the Board of Management. In the case of any Board of Management decision to uphold the recommendation of the Principal to permanently exclude a student, the Board will automatically inform TESS and KWETB of their decision. The Board of Management will inform parents / guardians of their right to appeal this decision to permanently exclude the student.

Statement of Standards:

The aim of Curragh Community College is to promote and encourage the highest standards of honesty, care, and respect for one another at all times and these values should form the foundation of all relationships in the school as reflected in the school's Positive Behaviour Matrix. Those entrusted with the care of students should always aim to be fair. In line with these standards and our inclusion and diversity approach, there will be no tolerance of

- Harassment
- Bullying
- Discrimination on the grounds of race, ethnicity, gender, religion, sexual orientation, age or ability.

Within the school, the Discipline structure is very closely aligned with the operation of the overall Pastoral Care system.

- 1 Responsibility for addressing challenging student behaviour in the classroom lies with the class teacher.
- 2 A teacher may refer a student to their Year Head on the basis of a problem arising in class or in school.
- 3 A student may be referred to the Deputy Principal / Principal by the Year Head, if necessary.
- 4 A student may be referred to the Board of Management by the Principal for serious and/or continuous misbehaviour.
- 5 Legal proceedings may be initiated in the case of acts of a criminal nature within the school.



Curragh Community College: Student Code of Behaviour

- 6 A relevant agency, e.g., HSCL, S.C.P., NEPS, TESS etc. may be referred to in the case of a pattern of deviant behaviour, observed to be beyond the scope of the school's coping structures.

Section 3: School Rules (Expectations)

The **Relate** Team in Curragh Community College has developed a positive behaviour matrix outlining the behaviour expectations in the classroom, the corridors, the lunchrooms and the toilets. The expectations are designed, in consultation with students, staff and parents, to demonstrate how students should respond to school by achieving and being prepared, being respectful and showing care to themselves, others and the school environment.

Students' Responsibilities:

As a basic minimum commitment to their own learning, all students have a responsibility to:

- Respect the rights of all members of the school community - students, staff, visitors and others;
- Respect themselves and contribute to all aspects of school life;
- Cooperate with all staff;
- Wear the school uniform in full and with pride, including the school tracksuit;
- Attend school daily and punctually, ensuring that absences are genuine and unavoidable;
- Respect the rules of the school.

The **School Rules** as outlined below are the minimum standards the school expects all of its students to adhere to.

General Behaviour

At all times students are expected to:

1. Be honest, courteous, cooperative and respectful to one another and to the staff and visitors.
2. Wear the full school uniform as described below:



Curragh Community College: Student Code of Behaviour

Junior students

- Simple, not expensive, grey trousers or knee length skirt.
- Navy blue, knitted jumper with school crest.
- White shirt.

Senior students

- Simple, not expensive, grey trousers or knee length skirt.
 - Teal blue, knitted jumper with school crest.
 - White shirt.
- All students to wear brown, navy, or black, flat shoes. Black leather runners are acceptable.
 - Leggings, hoodies, jeans, and multi-coloured runners are not acceptable.
 - Students who wish to do so, may purchase and wear in class, on cold days, a school crested fleece. Other jackets, jumpers, hoodies etc. are not permitted to be worn in class.
 - On days when students have PE, they may come to school in their PE gear. All students are required to wear the navy and teal school crested tracksuit top, navy school crested tracksuit bottoms and school crested T-shirt.
 - Students representing the school at sporting events should wear their uniform to school. They should, at the time nominated by the teacher involved, change into the relevant sports gear, which they should change out of and back into their uniform before returning to class.
 - The uniform must be worn appropriately.
3. Attend school in accordance with the school calendar and timetable or as otherwise directed by school management. Students who have an exceptional official permission to a subject reduction must attend that class, where they are expected to sit quietly and do their work.
4. Arrive promptly and assemble quietly in line outside the classroom door until the teacher allows students to enter. Have all equipment ready for each class as required: Journal, books, copies, pens, pencils, instruments, etc. Ensure schoolbooks are kept in good order. Bring home all property at the end of the school day unless securely stored in lockers provided. Be responsible for all books that they receive from the school Book Rental Scheme which are required to be returned at the end of the cycle of study.



Curragh Community College: Student Code of Behaviour

5. The following are strictly forbidden:

- Use of offensive, racist, sexist language or language intended to exclude.
- The taking of photographs, images or audio recordings of staff members, students, or visitors by any media and / or posting such photographs, images or recordings on social media.
- Rough, unsafe or boisterous behaviour.
- Engaging in any form of bullying or intimidating behaviour.
- Chewing gum
- Running on the corridors. Students must keep to the left whenever possible and at all times on the corridors and stairs.
- Damage to the property of others in the school community. Property damaged or broken may have to be replaced by the person concerned.
- Possession of fireworks and / or stink bombs
- Vaping and/or smoking on the school premises, grounds, in the vicinity of the school and on all school outings. Given the dangers of vaping illegal products where many schools are having to respond to urgent medical events, where one or more students are found in a toilet cubicle together an automatic one-day suspension will apply. Students who are in possession of vaping devices will receive a sanction. Devices will be confiscated and returned to parent/guardian.
- Possession of a blade, knife or similar sharp object.
The last offence will result in an automatic, minimum, one day suspension.

Attendance

6. Attend school as per the school calendar and timetable unless otherwise directed by school management. All absences must be explained by parents / guardians via the Tyro Parental App.
7. Late arrivals must report to the secretary/deputy principal to be recorded on Tyro before joining class. Students who are repeatedly late to class may be assigned a lunchtime detention by school management.

Mobile Phones / Communication Technology

8. In accordance with the school's Acceptable Use Policy, it is the responsibility of students who bring mobile phones onto school premises to adhere to the guidelines outlined in this document. Students are expected to ensure that the phone should never be turned on or used during the school day, on school premises



Curragh Community College: Student Code of Behaviour

or on school trips. Phones must not be used for any purpose, e.g. phoning, texting, checking the time, using the calculator, taking photos, taking video / audio recordings, surfing the internet, etc. However, upon the teacher's instruction and strictly for educational purposes, a phone may be turned on for use in class, e.g., to take a photo of an experiment or learning exercise. The phone must be turned off in full (not in silent mode) once the learning task is completed. **It is the student's responsibility to ensure the phone is fully turned off.** Where teachers form the opinion that the student's mobile phone causes a disruption of any sort, it will be confiscated. It must be given to the teacher on request and it will be left in the Principal's office for collection by the student at the end of the school day. The student is not permitted to remove the SIM card from the phone prior to it being confiscated.

Any phone confiscated (unless it is for a recording offence) will be returned to the student at the end of the school day. However, a phone that is confiscated a second time will only be returned to a parent / guardian, who must come to the school to collect it in person.

Recording devices must never be used in the school and / or on any school related activities. If any unauthorised recording takes place, the device used will be confiscated. The student will be required to delete the offending material in the presence of the Principal. Any such device will be returned to the student's parent / guardian. A penalty for carrying out the recording may also be issued by the Principal, depending on the gravity of the offence.

Classroom Rules

9. Students are responsible for their own conduct. The following sets out the minimum standards of cooperation expected of all students without exception:

- Be courteous to your teachers and fellow students
- Cooperate with the teacher in all matters
- Be on time for class and wait quietly outside the classroom for your teacher. When the door is opened move quietly to your assigned place
- Have your Student Journal with you and leave it open on the desk for inspection
- Take out your books, copy and equipment without having to be asked. Only put them away again when the teacher has given permission



Curragh Community College: Student Code of Behaviour

- Participate fully in class, taking notes as necessary and complete all schoolwork and homework (oral, written or research) as directed by each teacher. A written explanation from home is expected if homework is not done
- Students should not do anything to disrupt the work of their peers
- Students have responsibility for keeping each classroom clean and tidy
- Leave the room in an orderly and quiet manner
- **Do your best. Show respect. Take pride in your work, your school and yourself.**

Section 4: Rewards

Rewards:

An important part of the school's Code of Behaviour is the effort made to acknowledge the good behaviour and commitment to student education. This is supported by the work of the school's Relate Team

Teachers are encouraged to communicate with parents / guardians to inform them of the positive contribution to the learning that students make either within the classroom or in the wider school community. Tutors and class teachers are encouraged to record positive behaviour in the student's journal or on Tyro.

Students receive awards each year for consistently positive behaviour, for demonstrating acts of kindness, care and respect in the school community and for academic achievement. The list of awards can change in line with curriculum development and the school's engagement in cultural change.

Section 5: Student Journal

Use of Student Journal:

The School Journal is an important medium of communication between parents / guardians, students, and teachers.



Curragh Community College: Student Code of Behaviour

Students should fill in work and homework for each subject each day. Parents / Guardians and Tutors sign the journals on a weekly basis. Proper use of a Student Journal organises the busy schedule of a modern day student and is a vital link between school and home. Students should have the journal on the desk during class and it should be handed up to teachers when requested.

Tutors and class teachers are encouraged to record positive behaviour in the student journal and/or on Tyro

The Journal can be used to record sanctions for breaches of the Code of Behaviour. Sanctions are also recorded on Tyro.

Under the Free School Book Scheme, all students will receive a journal. Replacement journals for all students will cost €10.

Section 6: Sanctions

All students are expected to comply with the school's Code of Behaviour both inside and outside the classroom. By keeping to these standards they are ensuring that the rights of all students and staff are being respected. They are also showing that they are aware of their responsibilities and as such will be a credit to their school, parents / guardians, and family and, of course, themselves. Acceptance of a place offer in Curragh Community College requires acceptance of this Code of Behaviour and assumes the parents/ guardians and students have read this document.

Year Heads will carry out mobile phone, uniform, locker and bags checks at intervals across the year to ensure compliance with the code of behaviour.

When students fail to comply with their own high standards and act against their own and others best interests by infringing the Code of Behaviour as set out above, they will be dealt with by a teacher, in the first instance.

Each teacher is expected to deal with disciplinary problems within the class through a restorative approach and to apply a system of sanctions for breaches of discipline.

These may include:



Curragh Community College: Student Code of Behaviour

- Verbal Correction
- Change position in class
- Note in Student's Journal or on Tyro
- Issue warning
- Extra homework relevant to the subject area
- Discuss the concerning behaviour with student outside of class
- Lunch or Break time Detention
- Community Service where damage has been caused to school community property
- Detention after school (due notice, at least one day, to be given to student and parents / guardians)
- Discussion with parents / guardians

The school administers discipline consistently.

Students who arrive late to class will be dealt with by the subject teacher.

Teachers who issue a Report Sheet or Sanction record this in the journal and/or on Tyro and email the relevant Year Head.

Situations may arise where the teacher will require external assistance. In such situations the teacher may:

- In consultation with the student's Year Head, communicate with parents / guardians in order to support improved behaviour.
- Refer the student to the Year Head.
- Refer Verbal or physical abuse and / or intimidating behaviour by students to the principal.

The Year Head may:

- 1 Refer the student back to the teacher
- 2 Consult with other teachers, the principal, school guidance counsellor
- 3 Counsel / Reprimand the student, including advice on how to improve, adopting a restorative approach.



Curragh Community College: Student Code of Behaviour

- 4 Impose sanctions, these may include:
 - Verbal correction
 - Change position in class
 - Note in School Journal
 - Issue warning
 - Consult with student outside of class
 - Detention at break times
 - Detention after school (due notice, at least one day, to be given to student and parents / guardians)
 - Discussion with parents / guardians
 - Place a student on Behaviour Report or Academic Report for whatever length of time the Year Head deems is appropriate to support the student to improve his/her behaviour
 - Recommend internal suspension
 - Recommend suspension
- 5 Seek an assurance from parents / guardians that the matter(s) complained of will be rectified.
- 6 Negotiate a Behaviour Contract with parents/guardians to support the student to engage with more positive behaviours.
- 7 Ask parents / guardians to visit the school for discussions.

Sanctions that may be imposed by the Principal or the Deputy Principal acting on behalf of the Principal

The Principal, or the Deputy Principal acting in the absence of the Principal, may impose any combination of sanctions for individual and repeated offences similar to the sanctions referred to above. However, the Principal or the Deputy Principal have the authority (from the Board of Management) to use their discretion to apply other reasonable, measured, suitable and lawful sanctions to meet the needs of any particular unforeseen situation that may arise. These sanctions may include suspension intervention, internal suspension and suspension

The Deputy Principal has a key role on a day-to-day basis in the implementation of this policy, as she is requested to advise, assist and support teachers and Year Heads on disciplinary matters daily.

The Principal may:

- Refer the student back to the Year Head



Curragh Community College: Student Code of Behaviour

- Refer the student back to the classroom teacher in consultation with the Year Head
- Consult with other staff members
- Consult with appropriate outside agencies
- Advise and Reprimand the student, including advice on how to improve
- Issue letter to parents / guardians
- Consult with parents / guardians
- Contact parents / guardians to request the student is brought home
- Sanction Suspension- Parents will be informed about the length of the suspension and the appeal mechanism available to parents/guardians under Section 29, Education Act 1998 and as amended by the Education (Miscellaneous provisions) Act 2007. The school will keep on file all records of investigation and decision making processes. The Board of Management will be notified of all student suspensions with the reasons for and duration of each suspension. The school Principal will report suspensions in accordance with Tusla reporting guidelines and in compliance with the requirements of Section 21 (4) (a), Education (Welfare) Act 2000.
- If the situation is of such gravitas the Principal may recommend to the BOM the student's exclusion from school.

In School Exclusion:

A Year Head may recommend in school temporary exclusion to the Principal. This type of suspension will involve a student being excluded from some or all of his / her classes. Depending on the issues involved, the student involved may be allocated to the class(es) of another teacher(s) during the suspension and / or may be put in a room to work away from his / her peers and / or may be required to arrive later or leave earlier than other students. In School Suspension may be imposed by the Principal or the Deputy Principal acting in the absence of the Principal.

The School Completion Programme Team supports the school and its students through a suspension intervention programme, and where appropriate the Behaviour for Learning Team can support in this instance also.

Section 7: Conclusion



Curragh Community College: Student Code of Behaviour

This Code of Behaviour should enable students to learn and teachers to teach in a structured, orderly environment. It has been approved by the Board of Management and will be subject to on-going review in light of the changing environment the school may find itself in. The school reserves the right to modify this Code of Behaviour at short notice. Any change(s) made will be communicated to parents / guardians and students as soon as is realistically possible after the change(s) is made. The Code of Behaviour should be read in conjunction with the Exclusion Policy.

Formal Adoption of the Code of Behaviour by the Board of Management of Curragh Community College

Signed: Munk Brennan
Chairperson of Board of Management

Date: 15 June 2026

M. Doyle

15/06/2026.

