



Christian Brothers School

MOUNTGARRETT, NEW ROSS, CO. WEXFORD

Code of Behaviour

Ratified by

The Board of Management

on 9th December 2025



**Iontaobhas Scoileanna Éamainn Rís
Edmund Rice Schools Trust**

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Mission Statement

Christian Brothers School New Ross is a Catholic, voluntary co-educational secondary school where students, staff, management and parents together offer a holistic, caring, learning environment. In our pursuit of excellence, we offer a balanced education, where the dignity and uniqueness of each person is valued and respected.

The Edmund Rice Schools Trust (ERST)

CBS New Ross is proud to be a member of The Edmund Rice Schools Trust. The ERST Charter states that the vision of an ERST school is to promote the full personal and social development of students in a caring Christian community of learning and teaching.

This educational approach is based on a holistic vision expressed in the five key elements of:

- Nurturing faith, Christian spirituality and Gospel-based values
- Promoting partnership
- Excelling in teaching and learning
- Creating a caring school community
- Inspiring transformational leadership

All five elements of the charter are incorporated into the development of this policy.

Code of Behaviour

Introduction.

By sending your child to CBS New Ross, it is understood that you have read and accepted the school's Code of Behaviour.

Persons whose behaviour is deemed to be governed by this policy include all staff, students, visitors and parents/guardians involved in any school activity.

Our Code of Behaviour complies with statute and common law, in particular the Education Act 1998, Equal Status Act 2000, Education (Welfare) Act 2001, EPSEN Act 2004 and other relevant legislation. Our Code of Behaviour was compiled using NEWB - Developing a Code of Behaviour Guidelines for schools 2008.

Student Responsibilities

Students at CBS New Ross are expected to take an active role in creating a positive, respectful and responsible school community. All students are expected to uphold the values of **Respect, Responsibility and Kindness** in their learning, behaviour and relationships throughout the school day and beyond.

Students are responsible for:

- Their behaviour on the way to and from school, in every class, online and during all school activities or outings.
- Treating others with dignity and respect, following the principle of treating others as they would wish to be treated.
- Taking care of their own books, materials and personal belongings.
- Working to the best of their ability in all subjects.
- Completing classwork and homework fully and on time.

- Maintaining regular attendance and being on time for school and every class.
- Taking responsibility for their exam performance, including CBAs, oral presentations, Leaving Cert projects and other project work.
- Showing respect for themselves, others, school property and shared facilities.
- Demonstrating a positive attitude and respectful behaviour at all times.
- Taking care of their personal hygiene, health and appearance.
- Accepting the consequences of their choices and actions.
- Making healthy lifestyle choices, including avoiding high-sugar, caffeinated or energy drinks.
- Supporting Green Schools initiatives, such as using reusable water bottles and reducing waste.
- Following guidance issued by the school and relevant government departments.
- Completing assessments honestly and not engaging in any form of cheating or dishonesty.

Why This Matters

These responsibilities are grounded in our school's expectation **of Respect, Responsibility and Kindness** and they aim to:

- Encourage students to become self-aware, motivated and respectful learners.
- Support a safe, inclusive and high-performing school environment.
- Promote personal responsibility for learning, behaviour and wellbeing.
- Build a school culture where everyone feels respected, valued and supported.
- Prepare students for life beyond school as responsible and ethical citizens.

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

Parents/guardians play a key role in supporting their child's learning, personal development and wellbeing. CBS New Ross values the partnership between home and school and asks all parents/guardians to actively engage in supporting the school's expectations of **Respect, Responsibility and Kindness**.

Parents/Guardians are encouraged to:

- Support the student in understanding the Code of Behaviour by reading through it together and helping to clarify any areas that may be unclear.
- Support the student to reach their full potential and prepare for adulthood.
- Promote personal responsibility for attendance, behaviour, effort, exam performance, CBAs, oral presentations, punctuality and attitude.
- Encourage independence, wellbeing, resilience and effective coping skills.
- Ensure the student gets enough rest, exercise and follows a healthy diet and positive lifestyle choices.
- Ensure the student goes to school with the correct materials for school and for each subject.
- Check the Student Journal and VSware to communicate with teachers and ensure homework is fully recorded and completed.
- Support the development of good routines that promote wellbeing and full engagement with all aspects of school life.
- Regularly discuss the student's progress and experiences in school.
- Make appointments with the school to discuss progress, concerns or any issues that may arise.
- Encourage participation in activities both in and outside of school.
- Help the student make informed choices and responsible decisions.
- Ensure the student wears the full school uniform at all times.
- Monitor and support the student's engagement with online learning and responsible digital behaviour.

Why This Matters

These responsibilities are grounded in our school's expectation of **Respect, Responsibility and Kindness** and they aim to:

- Strengthen the partnership between home and school.
- Ensure students are supported and encouraged in their learning and personal development.
- Promote positive habits and routines that contribute to wellbeing, learning, and success.
- Reinforce the importance of personal responsibility for behaviour, effort, and attitude.
- Help maintain a safe, respectful, and positive school community where every student can thrive.

Staff Responsibilities

Staff members at CBS New Ross are expected to conduct themselves professionally and to model the values of **Respect, Responsibility and Kindness** in all their interactions with students, parents/guardians, and colleagues.

Staff members will:

- Provide all students with a quality educational experience in a safe, secure, and positive learning environment.
- Deliver the prescribed curriculum and prepare students for exams, CBAs, and assessments.
- Use classroom management strategies that promote active learning, academic success and positive behaviour.
- Seek to manage challenging behaviour proactively, before moving to formal sanctions.
- Apply the Code of Behaviour and all school policies in a fair and impartial manner.
- Communicate with parents/guardians through the Student Journal, school reports, parent-teacher meetings and other appropriate channels.

Why This Matters

These responsibilities are grounded in our school's expectation of **Respect, Responsibility and Kindness** and they aim to:

- Provide students with a safe, inclusive and positive learning environment.
- Promote high-quality teaching and learning that supports every student's potential.
- Ensure that positive behaviour is encouraged and challenging behaviour is managed fairly and consistently.
- Strengthen the relationships between students, staff and parents/guardians.
- Uphold the values and expectations of CBS New Ross in all aspects of school life.

School Ethos

CBS New Ross strives to provide a caring and supportive environment where each student is valued and respected. We aim to create a positive atmosphere that fosters academic excellence, personal development, and mutual respect. The CBS seeks to maintain a safe, structured and nurturing environment where responsibility, integrity and respect flourish.

Rationale

This Code of Behaviour is in place in order to:

- Ensure the safety of all members of the school community both on the school premises and on school activities.

- Promote a successful teaching and learning environment.
- Help students acquire good habits of discipline, behaviour and responsibility, respect and kindness.
- Prepare students for future responsibilities in the working environment and adult life.
- Assist in developing good habits of citizenship.
- Inform students and their parents/guardians of the procedures used by CBS New Ross to address issues of behaviour in the school by:
 - Defining standards of behaviour for students.
 - Informing students and their parents/guardians of the measures that the school may take to address student misbehaviour.
 - Informing parents/guardians of school procedures that will be followed before a student is suspended or expelled.
 - Explaining the grounds and conditions under which a suspension imposed on a student may be lifted.
 - Informing parents/guardians of their legal responsibilities relating to occasions when their child is absent from school.
- Conforming to the statutory obligation in Section 23 of the Education (Welfare) Act 2001.

Application of the Code of Behaviour

The Code of Behaviour will apply:

- Within the school campus, during the school day and any after-hours activities.
- On the way to and from school and in full or part school uniform.
- When students are involved in any school related activities, including (but not limited to) school tours, outdoor pursuits, field trips, sports activities, retreats, school visits/ expeditions, official school charity collections and events.

Promoting Positive Behaviour

Promoting good behaviour is one main objective of the school's Code of Behaviour. Through its ethos, policies and practices, CBS New Ross actively promotes positive behaviour and seeks to prevent inappropriate behaviour.

The school is actively committed to consistency in promoting good behaviour. This can be achieved by mutually respectful relationships between student and teacher.

- Students are given responsibility and are encouraged to understand why the Code of Behaviour is important.
- The Code of Behaviour is designed to work in a fair and consistent way.
- The overall expectation to **Be Responsible, Be Respectful and Be Kind** is promoted throughout the school.
- Standards of behaviour are clear, consistent, widely communicated and high expectations are set.
- The school climate and atmosphere are promoted and embedded by the whole school community.
- Parents/Guardians, students and teachers are invited to be involved in seeking to promote good relationships and a harmonious atmosphere through positive interactions.
- Clear expectations and rules are set and taught for students.
- Students are helped to recognise and affirm good behaviour.
- Positive feedback is provided through the school journal and VShare where merited.

The school acknowledges, promotes and rewards good behaviour in a variety of ways. This includes (but is not limited to) the following:

- Verbal praise in class.
- Positive points are logged on VShare.
- Compliment certificates for those who achieve a minimum of 10 positive points may be issued by the school leadership team.
- Rewards given at various times, at the discretion of the teacher, Year Head, Deputy Principal and Principal.
- Regular assemblies are held reinforcing and encouraging positive behaviour.
- Positive affirmations are given directly to students from teachers, Year Heads, Deputy Principal and Principal communicated in classrooms, at meetings, through notice boards, intercom, newsletter and school social media and the school website
- Annual Awards Ceremony.

Rules and Regulations and Expectations for Students

The Code of Behaviour will apply:

- Within the school campus during the school day and any after-hours activities.
- To all school-linked activities, including (but not limited to) school tours, sports activities, retreats, after school study, school visits/expeditions, official school charity collections and events.
- To any online school related activity.

At CBS New Ross, the following rules apply to all students:

- The overall expectation is: **Be Responsible, Be Respectful and Be Kind.**
- Students must show respect and courtesy to fellow students and staff at all times.
- Students will move between classrooms in a quiet, orderly manner. All students must wait in a quiet, orderly manner until the teacher arrives.
- Chewing gum is absolutely forbidden on school grounds.
- The possession, purchase or consumption of alcohol, addictive substances or illegal substances during the school day or during school activities is absolutely forbidden.
- Offensive language is absolutely forbidden.
- Smoking/vaping is absolutely prohibited on the school premises, its vicinity and during school functions and activities.
- All damage to school property must be immediately reported to the school authorities.
- Students are expected to attend all classes on their timetable.
- Students are not permitted to leave the school grounds during the school day without obtaining prior permission.
- Students must not bring the good name of CBS New Ross into disrepute.
- Bullying will be dealt with in accordance with the **Bí Cineálta** policy and may lead to sanctions up to and including suspension and expulsion.

Why These Rules Matter

Because following the rules safeguard our rights as persons and protect our property in CBS New Ross. They exist to promote a safe, respectful and positive learning environment where every member of the school community can thrive.

These rules are grounded in our school's expectation of **Responsibility, Respect and Kindness** and they aim to:

- Ensure that everyone feels safe, valued and included.
- Encourage personal responsibility and self-discipline.
- Protect the integrity and good name of our school.
- Foster a culture where learning, growth and wellbeing are central to school life.
- Uphold the rights of all students and staff to teach and learn in an environment free from disruption, harm or intimidation.

By following these rules, we show respect for ourselves, for each other and for our school.

Respect for Property

At CBS New Ross we strive to keep our environment clean, safe and tidy. We expect that all our students will take care of their own property and respect that of others.

- The overall expectation is: **Be Responsible, Be Respectful and Be Kind.**
- Each student is responsible for their own property. The school does not accept responsibility for goods lost in the school.
- Students must have their names on all personal items; some examples include but are not limited to student uniforms, coats, sports gear and re-usable water bottle.
- No student should interfere with the property of any other person in CBS New Ross.
- Accidental damage must be reported immediately to the Deputy Principal or Principal.
- The cost of either repair or replacement will be borne by any student responsible for unacceptable damage to property in the school.

Why These Rules Matter

These rules are grounded in our school's expectation of **Responsibility, Respect and Kindness** and they aim to support:

- A clean, safe and welcoming school environment.
- A culture of accountability, where students take ownership of their actions.
- Fairness and justice, ensuring that no one suffers from the careless or deliberate actions of others.
- Pride in our school, where we all work together to maintain the spaces and items we share.

By respecting our environment and each other's property, we show that we care — for ourselves, for one another and for our school.

Lockers

The overall expectation is: **Be Responsible, Be Respectful and Be Kind.**

- Lockers are provided for the use of students but remain, at all times, the property of the school.
- It is a condition of use that the school reserves the right to open and search a student's locker(s) when necessary. The student will be invited to be present during any such search.
- Each student must provide a lock to protect personal and school property.
- If the lock is lost, the student must replace it at their own cost.

Why These Rules Matter

These rules are grounded in our school's expectation of **Responsibility, Respect and Kindness** and they aim to:

- Ensure the safety and security of students' personal belongings.
- Promote responsibility in the use and care of school property.
- Maintain a safe and orderly school environment.

- Support fairness, trust and transparency in the shared use of school resources.

By using lockers responsibly, students contribute to a respectful and secure school community.

Expectations in Classrooms, Corridors and School Environs

The relationship between students and staff in the classroom, the corridors and the wider school environment is crucial to the positive, supportive and collaborative nature of CBS New Ross. We believe that with encouragement and praise, we can achieve great success. Our behaviour in class and how we respect our school will enable us all to take pride in our school community.

With this in mind, the following are our expectations:

- The overall expectation is: **Be Responsible, Be Respectful and Be Kind.**
- Respect and good behaviour are paramount whilst in school and on school-related activities.
- Students are expected to cooperate fully with their teachers.
- Classrooms and corridors must be kept tidy at all times.
- The personal space of students and staff must be respected when in class, during movement between classes, at break times and on school activities.
- Students must be on time for class.
- Each student is responsible for having the materials needed for each class.
- Students must enter, wait outside of, and leave the classroom in an orderly fashion.
- The classroom teacher will establish an atmosphere where mutual respect for all members of CBS New Ross will flourish.
- In every class, students are expected to write all homework and study assignments into their Student Journal.
- Eating in class or between classes is forbidden. Break time and lunchtime are the appropriate times for eating.
- Students are permitted to have a reusable bottle of water in class. All other drinks are strictly forbidden.
- Students are expected to use the toilet facilities before school begins, during break or during lunchtime.

Why These Rules Matter

These rules are grounded in our school's expectation of **Responsibility, Respect and Kindness** and they aim to:

- Promote a positive and productive learning environment.
- Ensure movement through the school is safe and orderly.
- Foster mutual respect between students and staff.
- Encourage personal organisation and time management.
- Build a sense of shared responsibility for our physical and social environment.

By meeting these expectations, we strengthen our school community and create a space where everyone can learn and grow.

Punctuality and Attendance: Every Day Counts

At CBS New Ross, we believe that every single day matters. Regular attendance and punctuality are essential for student success. Being present and on time reflects our shared values and maximises learning for all students.

Our overall expectation is simple: Be Responsible, Be Respectful, Be Kind.

Attendance

To maximise their learning experiences, students are expected to maintain regular attendance.

Under the *Education Welfare Act 2001*, the school is obliged to keep a record of each student's attendance.

When a student has been absent, a written explanation must be submitted through VShare by the parent/guardian (not the student).

If a student is absent for 20 days or more, the school is required by law to report this to TUSLA, Child and Family Agency.

Punctuality

- All students must organise themselves, so they are ready for class each morning.
- Students will be deemed late if they are not in their designated classroom at 9am.
- Persistent lateness is regarded as a serious matter and will result in sanctions and contact with home.
- Where a student is struggling with punctuality, the school will work in partnership with the student and their family to provide support.

Signing In and Out

- Students arriving during the school day must sign in at reception.
- Permission to leave school should only be requested for an urgent reason.
- To leave school during the day:
 - The student's parent/guardian must enter the absence on VShare.
 - The student's parent/guardian must come to the school to sign the student out at reception.
- Students who leave school without following this procedure will be recorded as having an unauthorised absence (please see the points system for further information).

Why These Rules Matter

These rules are grounded in our school's expectation to **Be Responsible, Be Respectful and Be Kind**. They aim to:

- Promote full participation in learning.
- Encourage habits of organisation, discipline and reliability.
- Ensure the school can meet its legal responsibilities.
- Support student wellbeing and safety throughout the day.
- Build a culture where learning is prioritised and respected.

Every day really does count. Showing up every day, on time and prepared, is a sign of respect and responsibility — for yourself, your teachers and your future.

Break Time and Lunchtime

Break time and lunchtime are important parts of the school day — times to relax, refocus and enjoy a sense of community. Students are expected to behave in a way that supports a safe, clean and respectful environment for all.

- The overall expectation is: **Be Responsible, Be Respectful and Be Kind.**
- Relax and prepare for upcoming classes.
- Show respect and kindness for people and property.
- Remain on the school grounds.
- Eat lunch in the designated areas.
- Queue in an orderly fashion.
- Keep all areas tidy and litter free.
- Do not consume food between or during classes.

Why These Rules Matter

These rules are grounded in our school's expectation of **Responsibility, Respect and Kindness** and they aim to:

- Ensure break and lunchtime are safe, pleasant and respectful for everyone.
- Promote responsible behaviour in shared spaces.
- Encourage cleanliness and pride in our school environment.
- Support positive and kind relationships and routines throughout the day.
- Reinforce healthy boundaries around food and space use.

These moments of pause and connection help to sustain a positive school culture — one where every student can feel safe, refreshed and ready to learn.

Bathroom Expectations

Using the bathroom is a normal part of every day, but it must be managed in a way that is safe, respectful and responsible. CBS New Ross expects students to treat the bathroom spaces — and the people using them — with dignity and care.

- The overall expectation is: **Be Responsible, Be Respectful and Be Kind.**
- Students are expected to use the bathroom before school begins, at break time or at lunchtime whenever possible.
- Only one person is permitted in each individual cubicle or each individual bathroom at any time.
- Students must queue respectfully outside in the corridor while waiting to use the bathroom.
- Respectful behaviour is expected at all times. No student should feel uncomfortable, unsafe or intimidated while using the bathroom.
- Bathrooms must be kept clean, safe and free of damage or misuse.
- Smoking or vaping or using oral smokeless tobacco (which is also known as snus) is absolutely prohibited on the school premises, including in toilet areas and inside cubicles.
- The use of mobile phones or Personal Electronic Devices (PEDs) is strictly prohibited anywhere on the school grounds, including in including in toilet areas and inside cubicles.

Why These Rules Matter

These rules are grounded in our school's expectation of **Responsibility, Respect and Kindness** and they aim to:

- Protect the privacy, dignity and wellbeing of every student.
- Prevent overcrowding and misuse of bathroom spaces.

- Promote safe and orderly movement during class time and breaks.
- Ensure that all students feel safe and respected when using school facilities.
- Maintain hygiene and cleanliness in shared areas.
- Protect the health and safety of all by keeping toilets (and all school spaces) free from harmful behaviours such as smoking/vaping, which pose serious health and safety risks.
- Safeguard student privacy and dignity by prohibiting the use of mobile phones or Personal Electronic Devices (PEDs) in bathrooms and individual cubicles where privacy must always be respected.

When students use the bathroom spaces responsibly, respectfully and with kindness, everyone benefits from a safer and more caring school environment.

School Uniform

At CBS New Ross, we are proud of our school uniform. It reflects a sense of belonging, equality and pride in our school community. Students are expected to wear their uniform properly and with respect at all times.

- The overall expectation is: **Be Responsible, Be Respectful and Be Kind.**
- **Detailed information on school uniform is available on the school website.**
- Students are expected to be neat and tidy in dress and appearance and to wear the full official school uniform at all times in school and when on any school activity or when representing the school.
- All-black footwear is required as part of the school uniform.
- Headwear is not permitted in the school building or while representing the school, except for headwear worn for religious reasons.
- Hair must ~~be a neutral colour and~~ neat and tidy at all times.
- School activities take place in classrooms, practical workshops and laboratories, formal and informal playing areas, in the Edmund Rice Room and in various out of school areas. Therefore, for Health and Safety reasons:
 - Stud earrings ONLY are allowed.
 - No facial piercings allowed
- Excessive make-up is not permitted.
- The official school PE uniform is obligatory for students in PE class.
- When representing the school, students must wear either the full school uniform or the school PE uniform, as directed by their teacher.
- If a student does not have the correct uniform, the parents/guardians must put a note on VSware before 8:30 am or contact the school office by 8:30am.
- In cases of persistent breaches of the uniform code, parents/guardians may be asked to collect the student from school.

Why These Rules Matter

These rules are grounded in our school's expectation of **Responsibility, Respect and Kindness** and they aim to:

- Promote equality by ensuring all students are dressed in the same way.
- Build a sense of identity and pride in being part of CBS New Ross.
- Encourage self-respect through neat and tidy personal appearance.
- Maintain safety and health standards in line with school policy.
- Ensure students represent our school community positively at all times.

Wearing the uniform properly is a visible way of showing respect — for yourself, for others and for our school.

Student Journal

The Student Journal is an essential tool for learning, organisation and communication at CBS New Ross. It helps connect students, parents/guardians and staff by supporting student progress and wellbeing.

The Student Journal is designed to:

- Record the student's attendance, homework, breaks from class and punctuality.
- Monitor the day-to-day behaviour of each student.
- Help students organise their homework and study on a daily basis.

The overall expectation is: **Be Responsible, Be Respectful and Be Kind.**

Students are expected to:

- Maintain the Student Journal in excellent condition – no graffiti or damage is permitted.
- Replace any defaced or damaged journal at their own cost.
- Replace a lost journal at their own cost.
- Bring the Student Journal to all classes every day.
- Report the loss of the Student Journal immediately to their Year Head.
- Present the Student Journal to teachers, Year Heads, Deputy Principal or Principal on request.

Why These Rules Matter

These rules are grounded in our school's expectation of **Responsibility, Respect and Kindness** and they aim to:

- Support strong communication between school and home.
- Help students take responsibility for their learning and organisation.
- Ensure accurate records in areas such as behaviour and progress.
- Promote care and respect for school materials.
- Encourage students to develop good habits that support academic success.

Taking care of the Student Journal is a simple but important way students can show responsibility for their own learning and respect for the learning community.

Mobile Phone and Personal Electronic Device (PED) Acceptable Use Policy

While CBS New Ross accepts that it is a student's choice to have a mobile phone or Personal Electronic Device (PED), this policy exists to maintain a safe, respectful and supportive school environment where the dignity and rights of all members of the school community are protected.

In order to assist the school in implementing this policy, parents/guardians are asked not to contact students directly via mobile phone or Personal Electronic Device (PED) during the school day. All essential communication should be made through the school office and students will be permitted to use the office phone if necessary.

Mobile Phone and Personal Electronic Device (PED) Usage at CBS New Ross

- The overall expectation is: **Be Responsible, Be Respectful and Be Kind.**
- No mobile phone or Personal Electronic Device (PED) usage is allowed in any school building at any time, unless under the direct supervision of a teacher in a classroom setting.
- No mobile phone or Personal Electronic Device (PED) usage is allowed outside on school grounds or while participating in school activities, including (but not limited to) trips and events, unless directed by a teacher.
- Students must not use a mobile phone or Personal Electronic Devices (PEDs) to interact with other students or access messages, apps or stored content during the school day.
- Recording, photographing or filming any person on the school premises or during school activities is strictly forbidden without consent. This may only take place with the explicit permission of the teacher for a specific, one-time purpose. Such permission applies only to that occasion and does not extend to any future use of the device without renewed permission.
- Sharing, accessing or distributing inappropriate, offensive or harmful content on any Personal Electronic Device (PED) is strictly prohibited.
- The mobile phone or Personal Electronic Device (PED) is the sole responsibility of the student. The school accepts no responsibility for damage, loss or theft of such devices.
- Students are expected to keep mobile phones and Personal Electronic Devices (PEDs) switched off and out of sight. A teacher may on occasion give permission for use of mobile phones during class time. This is for a specific, one-time purpose. Such permission applies only to that occasion and does not extend to any future use of the device without renewed permission. unless instructed otherwise by a teacher.
- If a student is using a mobile phone or Personal Electronic Device (PED) it must be handed to a teacher on request.

Why These Rules Matter

These rules are grounded in our school's expectation of **Responsibility, Respect and Kindness** and they aim to:

- Protect the privacy, dignity and wellbeing of all students and staff.
- Reduce distractions to support learning and teaching.
- Safeguard students from online harm and misuse of technology.
- Promote respectful and responsible digital citizenship.
- Prevent conflict or upset caused by inappropriate use of devices.

By following these guidelines, students help maintain a positive and safe school culture where relationships, learning and wellbeing come first.

Sanctions for breach of Mobile Phone and PED Usage

Students found in contravention of this policy will have the following sanctions applied:

Time	Policy	Negative Points
First	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Phone is handed over to the teacher and secured in the office until the end of the school day.	0 Points
Second	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Phone is handed over to the teacher and secured in the office until the end of the school day.Parents/guardians are contacted.	0 Points
Third	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Phone is handed over to the teacher and secured in the office until the end of the school day.The phone is returned to the parents/guardians only following a meeting with parents/guardians at the end of the school day.	-10 Points

Failure to hand over a mobile phone/personal electronic device (PED) including the SIM card when requested will result in sanctions up to and including suspension.

Where unauthorised content is taken in school and subsequently uploaded/shared, or where an individual knowingly participates with/contributes to unauthorised content taken in school, which is uploaded/shared, sanctions up to and including expulsion will apply.

Smoking and Vaping and Oral Smokeless Tobacco

In line with national health policy and our duty of care to students and staff, CBS New Ross operates a fully smoke-free and vape-free campus, including all indoor and outdoor areas. Our school also does not permit oral smokeless tobacco (which is also known as snus). This applies to students, staff, parents/guardians and visitors at all times.

CBS New Ross takes the health and safety of all members of our school community extremely seriously. Smoking, vaping or being in possession of smoking or vaping materials or oral smokeless tobacco (which is also known as snus) anywhere on school grounds, including toilet areas and cubicles and during any school activity, is a serious breach of school policy and a direct risk to personal and community health and wellbeing.

The overall expectation is: **Be Responsible, Be Respectful and Be Kind.**

If a student is found smoking, vaping or in possession of smoking/vaping materials or oral smokeless tobacco (snus), the following will apply:

- All smoking or vaping devices, substances including oral smokeless tobacco (snus) or related materials will be confiscated.
- Confiscated items will not be returned to the student or their family and will be disposed of appropriately by the school.
- Parents/guardians will be contacted by phone to discuss the matter, even if the materials have not been used.
- If the student has been smoking or vaping or using oral smokeless tobacco (snus) the student will be sent home for the remainder of the school day, with the parent/guardian arranging for the student to be collected.
- Where it is the case that a student is sent home for smoking or vaping or using oral smokeless tobacco the student's absence will be recorded as *'In School Business'* as this will recognise that

the student is not absent without cause or suspended but is instead engaging in a restorative process focused on health, wellbeing and personal responsibility. The student will be regarded as being in the care of parents/guardians during this time.

- A follow-up meeting with parents/guardians may be arranged to discuss the seriousness of the incident and any further support or sanctions.
- Repeated breaches may lead to more serious sanctions, including suspension.

Why This Matters

This response is grounded in our school's expectation of **Responsibility, Respect and Kindness** and it aims to:

- Protect the health and wellbeing of all members of our school community.
- Prevent health and safety risks, including fire hazards and exposure to harmful substances.
- Uphold our duty of care by ensuring the school remains a smoke-free and vape-free environment.
- Involve parents/guardians promptly to address risky behaviours before they escalate.
- Reinforce clear boundaries and responsibilities for all students.

This immediate response ensures students understand the seriousness of these behaviours and that the health and safety of the student and our entire school community is our priority.

Students Driving to School

At CBS New Ross, the safety of all members of our school community is our first priority. Students who drive to school must do so in a safe, responsible and respectful manner, in line with our expectations to **Be Responsible, Be Respectful and Be Kind**.

The following rules apply:

- Once a student parks their car and enters the school grounds, the car must not be used again until after 4:00pm (Monday to Thursday) and 1:15pm (Friday).
- Driving a car during school hours is not permitted under any circumstances.
- While 6th Years have permission to leave the grounds at lunch time, they do not have permission to drive a car at lunchtime.
- For safety reasons, students should not travel as passengers in another student's car to or from school unless both sets of parents/guardians have given explicit permission.
- If school receives a report of a car being used during school hours (or outside these expectations) the student(s) (driver and/or passenger) together with their parent(s)/guardian(s) will be required to attend a meeting with school management. The Code of Behaviour will apply and appropriate sanctions may follow.

Why This Matters

Learning to drive is an important milestone that builds independence. However, driving also carries real risks, especially for young and inexperienced drivers. During the school day there is no need for students to be driving or travelling as passengers, as doing so introduces unnecessary risk into what should be a safe environment for everyone.

These expectations are in place to protect student safety and wellbeing, encourage responsible decision-making and support families and students as young people develop independence in a safe and structured way.

Points System

At CBS New Ross, we believe that positive behaviour should be recognised and encouraged. We strive to promote an inclusive, supportive learning environment where students are acknowledged not only for their academic work but also for their personal effort, positive choices and contributions to our school community.

The Points System is a tool that allows us to reward positive behaviour while also addressing behaviours that do not meet our expectations. It helps students reflect on their actions and motivates them to make positive choices that contribute to their own learning and to the wellbeing of others.

Why This Matters

The Points System is grounded in our school's expectation of **Responsibility, Respect and Kindness** and aims to:

- Recognise and celebrate students who make a positive contribution to school life.
- Encourage personal growth, responsibility, respect, kindness and good decision-making.
- Support a safe and inclusive learning environment for all.
- Help students understand that their behaviour (both positive behaviour and poor behaviour) has an impact on themselves and others.
- Provide clear and fair responses to behaviour that undermines our school community.

How the Points System Works

The school uses the system to acknowledge positive behaviour and apply appropriate sanctions for negative behaviour.

Students will be informed when points are awarded or deducted.

Parents/Guardians will be able to view the Points in VSware.

Positive and Negative Points

Some examples of positive and negative points are provided below, but this list is not exhaustive.

Positive Behaviour Points	
Positive Behaviour	Points
First recorded reminder for missing homework in this subject, providing opportunity to improve.	+0
Very good homework	+1
Very good teamwork	+1
Teacher Discretion	+1
Improvement shown in classwork / consistently good classwork	+2
Improvement shown in class behaviour/consistently good behaviour	+2
Improvement shown in quality of homework/Consistently good homework	+2
Excellent attitude to work	+2
Improvement shown/ Consistent in organisational skills	+2
Helpful and cooperative to staff	+5
Helpful to others	+5
Enhancing the school environment	+5
Year Head Discretion	+5
Displays very good school spirit	+5
Displays outstanding school spirit (refer to Year Head before awarding)	+10
Enhancing the learning of others in class	+10

Negative Behaviour Points	
Negative Behaviour	Points
Late for school/class	-2
Incomplete or unsatisfactory homework	-2
Failure to present homework (second or more times)	-2
Eating in class without permission	-2
Improper uniform (without satisfactory explanation)	-2
Copying homework/doing work for one class in another class OR allowing another person to copy your homework	-2
Incomplete or incorrect uniform	-2
Disrespecting the school environment (example includes littering)	-5
Persistent arrival to class without required books or equipment	-5
Present in an area without authorisation	-10
Offensive language and gestures / rude behaviour / not accepting correction	-10
Damaging school property <i>(Serious cases may result in suspension)</i>	-10
Breach of Mobile Phone or PED Policy <i>(further details given previously)</i>	-10
Defiance	-20
Truancy (known as mitching) for partial day / unauthorised absences, including not signing out at the office <i>(Note: full day may result in suspension)</i>	-20
Dangerous behaviour resulting in health and safety being compromised	-20

Note on Behaviour and Consequences to support the Code of Behaviour

The Code of Behaviour is grounded in our school's expectation of **Responsibility, Respect and Kindness**.

While all behaviours are monitored and may result in points or sanctions, the severity, frequency, and intent behind a student's actions will always be considered when deciding on a response.

- Repeated behaviours, even if minor, may lead to more serious consequences over time.
- Serious or deliberate breaches of conduct, especially those involving harm to others, safety risks, or intentional damage, may result in suspension or other higher-level interventions.

In line with our school's expectation of **Responsibility, Respect and Kindness** our aim is always to support students to make positive choices and learn from their actions, while also upholding clear expectations to ensure a safe, respectful learning environment for everyone.

Rewards and Consequences

We recognise and celebrate positive behaviour while addressing inappropriate behaviour in a fair and supportive way. Both rewards and consequences are intended to help students learn from their actions, build positive habits and contribute to a respectful school community.

Positive Behaviour Points:

- An accumulation of +30 Points will lead to a Positive Postcard being issued.
- An accumulation of +50 Points will lead to a Certificate of Positive Behaviour being sent home.
- An accumulation of +75 Points will warrant a School Reward (e.g., voucher, privilege, special event).

Negative Behaviour Points:

- An accumulation of -10 Points will lead to a detention.
- If a student reaches -20 points a further detention will follow combined with a meeting with parents/guardians.
- Failure to attend detention will result in further sanctions, such as activity withdrawal and further detentions.
- If a student exceeds -30 points a meeting with parents/guardians will be called and an out-of-school suspension may be imposed.

Discipline Procedures

This section sets out the Code of Discipline and the sanctions that apply to all students of CBS New Ross throughout the school year.

The classroom teacher plays a key role in creating a positive learning atmosphere. When dealing with behavioural issues, the teacher will address the matter in line with the Code of Behaviour and apply professional judgement to support student growth and learning.

Possible disciplinary actions include:

- Points may be imposed.

- The student may be formally interviewed by the Class Teacher, Year Head, Deputy Principal or Principal.
- Withdrawal from class may occur, if deemed necessary by management, to allow time for investigations to take place.
- Repeated breaches of rules within the points system will result in sanctions outlined in our Code of Behaviour.
- The Principal, Deputy Principal or Year Head may impose sanctions for a single incident of serious misconduct.
- Refusal to attend detention, or misbehaviour during detention, is considered a serious offence.
- Parents/guardians may be invited to attend a meeting in school.
- Members of the Student Support Team may provide additional support to the student.
- A teacher or mentor may work with the student to encourage improved behaviour.
- Persistent instances of indiscipline may lead to suspension from school.
- Serious breaches of school discipline may result in immediate suspension, following contact with parents/guardians.
- Student behaviour is reviewed regularly throughout the academic year.

Why This Matters

These procedures are grounded in our school's expectation of **Responsibility, Respect and Kindness** and they aim to:

- Ensure that learning and teaching can take place without unnecessary disruption.
- Provide a clear and fair structure for addressing inappropriate behaviour.
- Encourage students to take ownership of their actions and learn from their mistakes.
- Protect the rights, safety and wellbeing of all members of the school community.
- Support the development of positive relationships and personal growth.

Our focus is always on helping students to improve, while maintaining a safe and respectful learning environment for everyone.

Serious Incidents of Misbehaviour

Each case of serious misbehaviour will be judged on its own merits and the school may proceed directly to higher-level sanctions if the situation warrants it. The Deputy Principal or Principal will manage such cases in the first instance. Sanctions such as lunchtime detention, detention, suspension or exclusion may be considered as first-level responses, depending on the nature of the incident.

When investigating a serious incident, the following procedures **may** take place, where appropriate:

- The student or students involved may be interviewed and the student's responses will be noted.
- The student may be asked to provide a written account of the incident.
- Other members of the school community may be interviewed as needed.
- Parents/guardians may be contacted and may be asked to attend a meeting in school.
- The Principal, and if necessary, the Chairperson of the Board of Management, will decide on the appropriate sanction (if any).

Why This Matters

These procedures are grounded in our school's expectation of **Responsibility, Respect and Kindness** and they aim to:

- Ensure that serious breaches of conduct are addressed firmly, fairly and consistently.
- Protect the safety and wellbeing of all members of our school community.
- Uphold the integrity and values of CBS New Ross.

Procedures for Suspension and Expulsion

Clear procedures for suspension and expulsion are necessary to ensure that serious breaches of behaviour are addressed fairly, consistently and in a way that protects the safety, learning, teaching and wellbeing of all members of the school community.

These procedures also provide students and their families with an opportunity to be heard and to engage with the process in a respectful and transparent manner.

All students, parents/guardians and staff are advised of these procedures through this document.

Suspension

The Board of Management delegates the authority to suspend to the Principal and Deputy Principal. Parents/guardians will be informed of the complaint, the subsequent investigation and how the suspension will be imposed. The period of suspension will be clearly outlined.

Grounds for Suspension

The decision to suspend a student requires serious grounds including (but not limited to):

- The student's behaviour has had a seriously detrimental effect on the education of other students.
- The student's continued presence in the school at that time constitutes a threat to safety.
- The student is responsible for serious damage to property.
- Failure to report to detention.
- A single incident of serious misconduct.

Immediate suspension

In certain exceptional circumstances, the Principal/Deputy Principal may determine that there are grounds for immediate suspension for reasons which may include the safety of the student, other students, staff or other members of the school community.

A single incident of serious misconduct and breach of the rules may be grounds for an immediate suspension. Such breaches include (but is not limited to);

- Skipping school (truancy) or leaving the school grounds without permission.
- Physical violence of any type.
- Threatening behaviour.
- Reasonably suspected of possession or dealing in drugs, alcohol or illegal substances.
- Reasonably suspected of being under the influence of drugs, alcohol or illegal substances.
- Serious damage to property.
- Breach of Mobile Phone Policy (including use of a mobile phone or recording device to compromise the privacy and dignity of others).

Opportunity to Respond

Before a Suspension is imposed, students and parents/guardians are given the opportunity to respond or make a case for lessening the sanction.

Appeals

Following the imposition of a suspension, the parent/guardian or a student over 18 years of age has a right of appeal to the Board of Management.

After the suspension ends

Following an out of school suspension, the student and their parent/guardian will meet with the Principal or Deputy Principal to facilitate the re-integration process.

Expulsion

The authority to expel is reserved for the Board of Management. Expulsion of a student is a very serious step, and one that will only be taken by the Board of Management in extreme cases of unacceptable behaviour.

Grounds for Expulsion

A proposal to expel a student requires serious grounds such as that:

- The student's behaviour is a persistent cause of significant disruption to the learning of others or to the teaching process.
- The student's continued presence in the school constitutes a real and significant threat to safety.
- The student is responsible for serious damage to property.
- When guarantees of reasonable behaviour following repeated suspensions are not forthcoming or not being met.

Expulsion is considered where the school believes that we have tried a series of other interventions and exhausted all possibilities for changing the student's behaviour.

Expulsion for a First Offence

There may be exceptional circumstances where the Board of Management forms the opinion that a student should be expelled for a first offence. Incidences which may result in a proposal to expel on the basis of a single breach of the code include (but are not limited to):

- A serious threat of violence against another student or member of staff
- Actual violence or physical assault
- The possession, supply or use of illegal drugs/alcohol in the school
- Sexual assault.
- Serious burglary or theft
- Gross insubordination to the Principal or other staff members.

Procedures in Respect of Expulsion

In compliance with the Education (Welfare) Act 2000, to ensure fairness, CBS New Ross's procedural steps will include:

1. A detailed investigation carried out under the direction of the Principal.
2. A recommendation to the Board of Management by the Principal.
3. Consideration by the Board of Management of the Principal's recommendation and the holding of a hearing.
4. Board of Management deliberations and actions following the hearing.
5. Consultations arranged by the Educational Welfare Officer.
6. Confirmation of the decision to expel.

Conclusion

In line with the values included in the Edmund Rice Schools Trust (ERST) Charter, CBS New Ross is committed to fostering a holistic educational environment where every student's personal and social development is supported.

Our Code of Behaviour, grounded in the expectations of **Responsibility, Respect and Kindness** reflects this commitment.

These core principles align with the five key elements of the ERST Charter, ensuring that we

- Nurture faith, Christian spirituality and Gospel-based values.
- Promote partnership.
- Excel in teaching and learning.
- Create a caring school community.
- Inspiring transformational leadership.

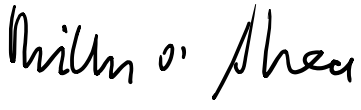
This Code of Behaviour sets out clear expectations to create a safe, supportive and inclusive learning environment where every student can thrive. The success of this policy is strengthened by the valuable contributions of all members of our school community, whose feedback during consultations ensures that the policy is relevant, fair and supportive of our ethos.

While we recognise that mistakes may happen, we are committed to helping students learn from their actions, take responsibility and make positive choices that contribute to their own success and the wellbeing of the whole school community.

By working together, we can continue to build a school where everyone feels valued, respected and where every day offers new opportunities to learn and grow as **responsible, respectful and kind** individuals. Through these practices, CBS New Ross continues to inspire transformational leadership and an educational experience where every student is valued and empowered.

Review

This policy was agreed on the date noted below and will be reviewed every year or earlier if required.

Signed:  **Date:** 9th December 2025
Mr Billy O'Shea, Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed:  **Date:** 9th December 2025
Ms Sarah Rice, Principal