

Glencull Primary School, St. Malachy's



Positive Behaviour and Discipline Policy

Ratified by Board of Governors

23rd Feb 2017

Chair _____

Principal _____

Glencull St. Malachy's behaviour and positive discipline policy is designed for all staff to be consistent in the way we deal with the children, to create a common expectation of behavioural standards, incorporating good manners and respect.

Behaviour is presented positively, concentrating on rewarding the good rather than punishing the bad. As a Catholic school we believe that the essence of good behaviour is care and consideration for others. We expect high standards of behaviour and courtesy from our children at all times (including online).

The focus in this school is the development of a positive caring climate, which is based on mutual respect for all people and for the environment in which we live. There is a quiet yet firm insistence on high standards of behaviour at all times and draws strength from a collective responsibility, consistent practice and constant vigilance.

There are a range of simple rewards and privileges with due emphasis on merited praise e.g. Class awards, pennies (to improve financial understanding) and points. Sanctions, e.g. verbal reprimand, withdrawal of privilege, loss of personal free time. School and class rules are applied with flexibility, bearing in mind the pupil's development and the need to be fair. Within this framework it is expected from time to time that a small and changing group will make extra demands on the time and professional expertise of teachers. Where there is cause for concern, due to poor behaviour, every effort will be made to discover the reason and realistic targets set to encourage improvement

If the poor behaviour is continuing or is detrimental to the child's or class's development in the long term, the Principal will seek the co-operation of the parent in monitoring it and in implementing the on-going programme designed to modify or eliminate the undesirable behaviour. When professional help is required, we will, in consultation with the parents, seek the guidance of the Educational Psychologist or other relevant agencies.

Parents and guardians assume that teachers will provide an efficient full time education for their children while at school. Teachers for their part assume that parents and guardians will encourage and support their teachers in their task of providing appropriate education and will actively encourage their children to obey and accept the lawful authority of the school.

Parents are urged to recognise what a vitally supportive role they have to play in matters of discipline.

Discipline is the key to a successful school as it is the prerequisite for effective teaching and learning to take place. Unacceptable behaviour within the school community disrupts not only the personal development of the wrongdoer but may also deprive other children of their rights to be educated. Therefore a school discipline policy is essential. This policy aims to cultivate in pupils awareness that they are responsible for the consequences of their own actions.

The Role of the Teacher

Within the classroom teachers will promote and encourage the development of these factors which research evidence indicates as effectively contributing to good discipline: -

- the establishment of good relationships with mutual respect between teachers and pupils;
- a consistent, firm and fair implementation of school's agreed discipline policy;
- a positive rather than negative approach by using praise, encouragement, (nights off homework-points, pennies, speedometer, golden time, 5 minutes extra in dinner hall), and **rewards more regularly than criticism and sanctions**;
- a careful matching of the curriculum and teaching methods to the needs of the pupils;
- setting tasks, which will enable all pupils to regularly achieve success.
- providing enjoyable and challenging lessons in a physically attractive environment with adequate and appropriate resources;
- nurturing the pupils' growing maturity and self-esteem by holding high expectations of their academic and social abilities;
- encouraging the personal and social development of pupils in all settings;
- providing and involving pupils in the planning of the school rules.
- consistency by all staff in applying rules.

ROUTINE INDISCIPLINE:

Homework not done or carelessly done; misbehaviour in class; displaying bad manners in class or in the dining area; leaving school without permission, poor on line behaviour;

Dangerous play in the yard; disrespectful to other children or members of staff.

Such indiscipline will be managed by the class teacher initially by reprimanding the pupil/s.

For repeated routine indiscipline children may lose some privileges.

Time Out

A loss of 10 minutes play

Be reported to the Principal.

Complete homework/classwork during free/play time.

THE CONTINUOUSLY DISRUPTIVE PUPIL OR BULLY IN CLASS
OR PLAYGROUND Or Online:

This involves a very rare type of pupil who may be defiant, sullen, aggressive and violent. This type of behaviour not only deprives others of their right to education but makes teaching difficult. We recognise that if this type of child is not dealt with at an early stage he/she may become further alienated from school.

The procedure for dealing with such a pupil would be as follows:-

Teacher disciplines child. – making note of this in their diary/discipline book

Principal disciplines child. – making note of this in their diary/discipline book

Parent informed regarding behaviour.

Parents are invited to the school.

Governors are made aware of the situation.

Governors make a decision with the Principal.

Each of these stages are recognised as steps in a process, where each step has failed to solve the existing problem. We realise that such a procedure is not commonplace but must be included as a point of reference.

c) GROSS MISCONDUCT:

This includes physical assault, violent verbal assault on a teacher, a serious assault on another pupil, serious attack on school property or gross moral misconduct. The penalty for such will be the ultimate one of suspension only where the above procedure has failed.