

**BEHAVIOUR
MANAGEMENT
POLICY**

FOR

**ST.MALACHY'S P.S.
AND NURSERY UNIT**

CAMLOUGH

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Malachy's promotes the Catholic ethos in all aspects of the school community while educating the whole child in a caring atmosphere. Great value is placed on the individuality of each child as we nurture and develop his or her needs.

This school offers a broad and balanced curriculum within a stimulating learning environment and encourages all pupils to strive towards excellence.

We foster good relationships within the school and extend them to develop strong links with the wider community.

Aims:

- (i) To promote quality Learning and Teaching so that all pupils can avail of the most suitable educational provision for them.
- (ii) To enhance pupils' self-esteem and self-respect while promoting respect for others.
- (iii) To promote self-discipline and a positive attitude towards acceptance of authority.
- (iv) To encourage loyalty and respect for the school, family and community.

CHILD

RIGHTS

- To feel safe and secure
- To be respected and treated fairly
- To receive an education relevant to their individual needs
- To be listened to and valued as an individual
- To enjoy their childhood

RESPONSIBILITIES

- To adhere to the school rules
- To respect all members of the school community
- To follow teacher direction and complete tasks to the best of their ability
- To listen to and value others
- To interact with peers to make their childhood happy

PARENTS

RIGHTS

- To have their child educated
- To have any concerns addressed
- To have their child treated as an individual and with respect
- To be kept informed about progress and school policies
- To be welcomed into the school

RESPONSIBILITIES

- To support the school
- To follow school procedures with regard to grievances
- To realise that **all** have that right
- To attend meetings and have regard for school policies
- To co-operate with all staff

STAFF

RIGHTS

- To be shown respect
- To have order, necessary to carry out effective teaching
- To feel safe in our working environment
- To have good working conditions

RESPONSIBILITIES

- To treat pupils, colleagues and parents with respect
- To be well prepared (and resourced) to teach well
- To ensure pupils' safety
- To ensure pupils are well supervised
- To involve pupils in drawing up whole school rules
- To ensure that parents know the procedure for addressing problems with staff members
- To provide a comfortable working environment (within resource limits)
- To communicate any difficulties to management
- To support each other by fostering good relationships

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

RIGHTS

- To be informed as soon as possible of any and all major breaches of school discipline

RESPONSIBILITY

- To support the Principal and staff in dealing with major breaches of discipline

Procedures for Handling Behavioural Issues/ Roles played

Incidents in the classroom to be dealt with by the following:

1. Classroom teacher
2. Head of Key Stage
3. Vice-principal
4. Principal

Incident on the corridor:

1. Any passing staff member to intervene if class teacher is not present
2. Report to class teacher

Incident in dining hall:

1. Teacher on duty/supervisory assistants
2. Report to class teacher

Incident in school yard:

1. Supervisor in charge
2. Report to class teacher if necessary
3. If incident is of a serious nature, supervisor should stay with offender/s and send responsible pupils to alert Principal/ Vice-principal

Incident going to or from school:

1. Parents' responsibility
2. School to report to parent or vice versa

Nursery Rules:

- We will be kind and caring to each other.
- We will walk indoors.
- We will treat all toys, books and furniture carefully.
- We will listen carefully when an adult speaks.
- We will use the toilets correctly and we will always wash our hands.
- We will share.

- We will pick something up if we drop it on the floor.

These rules are communicated verbally and as frequently as is necessary for the well-being and safety of each child in our care.

When necessary staff implement the following strategies:

1. Explain to the child what he has done wrong.
2. Ask for the action not to be repeated.
3. If anti-social behaviour continues, give a verbal reprimand.
4. If behaviour persists, remove from play situations and place on time-out.
5. If there is no improvement, have a talk with parents to see if there is any underlying cause for this behaviour.

Whole school rules

General Rules

- Be polite and show respect to all staff members
- The school uniform should be worn with pride and dignity. PE uniform P4-P7 to be worn on PE days only. Girls may wear PE uniform on exceptionally cold days.
- All pupils are to come to school regularly and on time.
- In the interests of safety, children should wear small studded earrings. All jewellery should be removed for PE and games.
- To behave sensibly and treat others with respect when travelling to and from school.
- Children are not permitted to bring mobile phones to school.

Dining hall:

1. We queue properly and move safely in the dinner hall.
2. We behave politely saying 'Please' and 'Thank-you'.
3. We talk quietly to those at our own table.
4. We lift our chairs when we wish to sit down and replace them when leaving the dinner table.
5. After our meal we stack our plates and empty our beakers.
6. We ask permission from a member of staff if we need to leave the hall.

Classroom

In St.Malachy's, classroom teachers are encouraged to formulate their own classroom rules/procedures with input from the children. A guidance for each Key Stage may be:

FS/Key Stage 1

- Walk
- Be kind
- Say please and thank-you
- Tidy up

Key Stage 2

- Move safely and carefully in the classroom
- Help and co-operate with each other
- Listen when someone is speaking
- Look after property belonging to yourself and others
- Bring what you need to school each day and be organised

Corridor

- We walk in single file on the left hand side
- We behave appropriately and keep noise to a minimum

Playground

- We listen to the adults in the playground and address them as Mr/Mrs/Miss
- We play together and look after each other
- We sort out our problems in a fair way
- We respect playground equipment, use it carefully and return it to the collection point or into the equipment box
- We ask permission if we wish to go back into the school building
- We play away from parked cars, school steps and grassy areas (seasonal)

Reward systems within whole school

In St. Malachy's we believe in the positive approach of encouragement and praise, rather than on the negative one of criticism and punishment. It is part of our school policy to 'catch pupils being good' and to reward good behaviour.

Staff employ a variety of reward systems, some of which include:

- 'Golden Time' – minutes rewarded for positive behaviour in groups
- 'Points system' – points given for good behaviour and work
- 'Rockets' on strings moved along to reward good work/behaviour
- Motivator pencils, stickers, badges, stampers
- Certificates for good writing, reading, listening etc
- Smiley faces, stars
- Student of the week
- Head teacher's award

Sanctions

In St Malachy's we believe that sanctions should be constructive and applied with sensitivity and flexibility.

Sanctions will include:

- (i) Disapproving look
- (ii) Authoritative voice
- (iii) Expressing disappointment
- (iv) Time out/withdrawal to a quiet place (supervised)
- (v) Withdrawal from classroom (supervised)
- (vi) Asking the child to offer an apology – verbal/written
- (vii) Apply the '3 strikes and you're out rule' – on the third strike the child is kept in at Friday lunchtime and provided with extra work (supervised)
- (viii) Sending to Head of Key Stage/Vice Principal/Principal
- (ix) Keeping parents informed of their child's behaviour – verbal/written.

The DE/CCMS' Scheme for Suspension on Expulsion may be applied for serious, or persistent, breaches of discipline.

Procedures for Use of Reasonable Force

The only occasions when reasonable force may be applied are:

- where action is necessary in self-defence or because there is an imminent risk of injury
- where there is a developing risk of injury or significant risk to property.
- where a pupil is behaving in a way that is compromising good order and discipline.

Relationship with other Policies

This policy is only one of a number of our Pastoral Care Policies (Child Protection, Pastoral Care, Anti-bullying) each of which contain advice and guidance on helping staff discharge their primary responsibility for the care, welfare and safety of pupils in our charge.

Working with Outside Agencies

In St Malachy's we are committed to working in partnership with both Medical and Educational personnel for the benefit of our whole school community.

Working with Parents

Parents have been consulted in the formulation of this policy and will receive a copy of our agreed Behaviour Management policy.

Each new family will receive a copy of our Behaviour Management Policy upon registering their child(ren) at St Malachy's and every two years a copy of our Pastoral Care Booklet will be given to all parents.

DEFINITIONS

Child

In this document we use the legal definition of ‘child’ to mean a person up to and including the age of 18 years.

Immediate Risk of Harm

The harm does not have to be imminent for the assumption of the risk, and therefore the need for action, to be anticipated. Immediate action may be justified if the harm is foreseeable.

Intimate Care

Care which involves contact or proximity to sensitive areas eg. washing, bathing, cleaning, changing, assisting with menstrual management and some medical procedures such as administrations of rectal diazepam.

Last Resort

The use of force is described as a ‘last resort’. This does not mean that all other possible alternatives must be tried and seen to fail before force may be used. It means staff should consider alternatives and balance the risks of using force against alternative, realistic options.

Physical Contact

This covers the full range of physical interactions ranging from light to firm pressure touch. It is necessary for a variety of purposes including the provision of care, comfort, communication, reassurance and safety.

Prompts and Guides

The use of touch to gain attention or direct movement as part of teaching.

Reassuring and Comforting

A hug around the shoulders or upper arms to comfort, calm and reassure a distressed pupil.

Risk assessment

The process of identifying and controlling potential hazards. Dynamic risk assessments are those conducted in real time when staff are faced by a situation that requires an urgent response. Formal risk assessments may be recorded in documents which alert people to hazards and suggest ways of avoiding or reducing risk.

Time out

Used informally to mean a cooling off period, giving space to calm down and think things through.

Withdrawal

Moving to another place, where the child is continually monitored and supported by staff. This may involve physically preventing the child from leaving until staff consider that it is safe for the child to do so.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The Behaviour Management Team in St Malachy's Primary school will update this policy and procedures in the light of any further guidance and legislation as necessary and review it at least triennially.

On-going evaluation will ensure the effectiveness of the policy.

Date policy reviewed: 29/08/2018

Signed:

_____ (Principal)

_____ (Chair of Board of Governors)