

# ***Knockloughrim Primary School***

## Positive Behaviour Policy



### **UN CRC Article 19**

Every child has the right to be protected from being hurt and mistreated in body or mind.

Reviewed: September 2020  
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# **Positive Behaviour Policy**

## **Rational**

Personal and social development is of crucial importance to the development of any learner, and the objective is to encourage independence, responsibility, caring, sharing and respect. Knockloughrim Primary School will endeavour to instil good citizenship, acknowledging and rewarding children's progress in this important area of personal development.

This document sets in place the principles, practices and procedures that the school has set in place in order to ensure a safe and orderly environment for all the members of our learning community. It should be considered in conjunction with our Anti Bullying, Pastoral Care and Child Protection Policies. Effective teaching and learning is dependent on positive relationships established at school and classroom level between staff and pupil and between pupils themselves. The foundation of this positive policy within school is the foundation for better learning.

## **Positive behaviour is achieved in two ways:**

1. Prevention – Preventative strategies that encourage each pupil to develop a sense of personality and self-discipline.
2. Management – When negative behaviour occurs, we need to be able to respond positively and effectively.

We try to do both by employing positive behaviour strategies through a number of initiatives and this policy is used alongside the Anti-Bullying and Safe Handling Policies and using effective interventions when negative behaviour arises (see Behaviour Levels and Interventions).

## **Collective responsibilities:**

### **Governors:**

Our governors oversee the management of our school and are part of the process of development and implementation of policies and procedures. They also ensure that statutory policies and procedures in regard to behaviour management are followed as determined by the Department of Education.

**Staff:** The school staff, both teaching and non-teaching, share a collective responsibility for consistently implementing school policy on positive behaviour. This is monitored and led by the Principal and will be subject to review on a bi-annual basis.

**Parents:** Parents have a responsibility for ensuring that they support their children by meeting school expectations in respect of positive behaviour.

**Pupils:** Our pupils are expected to be responsible for their own positive behaviour and to meet the expectations set out by the school.

## Policy Aims

To nurture a whole school ethos, within which each person can feel valued.

To encourage and develop children's acceptance of and respect for those charged with the duty of care.

To encourage and develop mutual trust within the population of the whole school.

To encourage and develop children's respect for one another and for each other's work, developing co-operative skills through working together.

To encourage children to appreciate the views of others.

To encourage self-discipline and control, giving children an opportunity to develop responsibility for their own actions.

To encourage and develop children's respect for, and independent use of the equipment and materials of the school.

To help children realise the importance of resolving differences and conflict through the use of non-violent means and reacting appropriately to a range of personal and social situations.

## Positive Behaviour Management Strategies

In our school, we are aware of the value of adopting a praise and reward policy with Good Citizenship being recognised.

Our school has achieved The Rights Respecting Schools Award. This award recognises achievement in putting the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) at the heart of our school's planning, policies, practice and ethos. A rights-respecting school not only teaches about children's rights but also models rights and respect in all its relationships: between teachers / adults and pupils, between adults and between pupils.

Staff will endeavour to administer shared and consistent approaches to the ways in which they respond to children's behaviour.

At every stage, they will create opportunities for children to be explicit about problems, and will encourage them to contribute to the solution. They will make time in and out of the classroom for discussion with and between the children, with a focus on social interaction and developing relationships, e.g. through Circle Time.



All teachers will implement Golden Time as a means to promote positive behaviour.

The school will give children an opportunity for input into formulating policy through our Pupil School Council.\*

## **Expected Standards**

Our pupils are expected to become self-disciplined and observe a positive code of conduct which protects the safety and well-being of themselves and others in a variety of situations, e.g.

- arriving at/ departing from school in an orderly fashion
- arriving punctually at school
- walking in the corridors
- observing proper standards of hygiene in toilet areas
- working to the best of their ability in class and observing any relevant classroom rules
- making sure that work (school or homework) is presented in a tidy, legible manner at all times
- obeying any special instructions on aspects of safety related to the practical subjects such as P.E., science or outdoor pursuits
- maintaining the social graces, including proper table manners in the dining hall, saying "thank you" and "please"
- giving a courteous reception to visitors
- keeping the school and grounds free from litter
- playing fairly at playtime with due consideration for the interests and safety of themselves and others within the permitted play areas
- avoiding all situations which might be termed bullying in various forms (gesture, language, physical, extortion or exclusion)
- being properly dressed in coat etc. before leaving the building at the end of the day
- being good ambassadors for the school on outings or visits to other places.

## **THE ROLE OF PARENTS**

In Knockloughrim, we recognise the importance of working in partnership with our parents to achieve best outcomes for our pupils. In endeavouring to accomplish this, our parents will:

- Receive information on what the school policy is on behaviour and how it is to be carried out on a day to day basis
- Receive regular information on their child's progress and behaviour
- Know that their child is receiving a broad and balanced curriculum
- Be listened to and have their beliefs respected
- Know that the school is a safe and caring environment for their child
- Receive information in our school's 'Pastoral Care' summary leaflet of how to report any concern or complaint they may have in relation to their child's safety or well-being
- Inform school staff of any concerns regarding their children or other parents children and allow the school to follow appropriate protocol. Parents should not address issues or intervene with other parents' children themselves.

We ask that our parents recognise the importance of compliance with the school rules and support the school regarding the behaviour expectations of our pupils.

Enrolment in school implies acceptance of the school's Behaviour policy.

### **Attendance and absence**

It is important that the children attend regularly throughout the term. Parents are advised to avoid term time holidays where possible. It is extremely difficult, if not impossible, for children to make up work that they have missed when they return to school.

It is school policy not to provide work for holidays during term time.

In order to complete attendance records correctly, notes explaining pupil absences must be brought to school promptly.

### **Uniform**

Parents are asked to support the school in ensuring that pupils are sent to school in uniform. Uniform creates a sense of belonging and identity within the school. It also reinforces the school's Positive Behaviour Policy – putting on the uniform reflects a sense of putting on the school code of conduct, with a willingness to follow the school rules. From a child safety aspect, uniform allows us to identify and monitor our children quickly and effectively while on outings and field trips.

### **Reasonable force / safe handling**

Knockloughrim Primary School follows the Regional Policy Framework on the use of Reasonable Force /Safe Handling. Our school is committed to ensuring that all staff and adults with responsibility for children's safety and welfare will deal professionally with all incidents involving aggressive or reckless behaviour, and only use physical intervention as a last resort in line with Education Authority advice. If used at all, it will be in the context of a respectful, supportive relationship with the child.

### **Positive Behaviour Incentive schemes**

The best and most successful approach to creating a positive ethos is to treat children positively, by praising them, offering them encouragement and acknowledging their achievements.

Rewards should:

- Be given as soon as possible
- Be small but tangible
- Never be taken back

### **House points**

We believe that pupils thrive when they receive praise for their effort, success in their studies, sport, music and other extra-curricular involvement in the life of the school.

We encourage a community feel by allocating each child to a shared House that includes children from all year groups and is led by a teacher who acts as a House Master or Mistress. We celebrate pupil achievements by awarding House Points for academic and not academic purposes.

These achievements will be recorded by staff on the C2K Sims Behaviour/Achievements Management Software and House Points are displayed in our main school noticeboards. The House Point Shield is awarded to the House with the greatest number of points at the end of each School Year.

Additionally:

Every week assemblies include time dedicated to celebrating a wide range of pupil achievements including the House Point scores.\*

Within school, we have a large TV screen in our foyer and it is used to 'broadcast' immediate praise for pupils who have excelled, contributed to school life, or helped in notable ways.

## **Positive Behaviour Incentive scheme – “Golden Time”**

Aims-

- To recognise and reward good citizenship.
- To encourage children to take responsibility for their own behaviour and accept consequences when rules are broken.
- To acknowledge consistent application to work.

A 30-minute session each week is given to the children, in which they take part in an activity/ activities of their choice e.g. bringing in an inexpensive toy or game from home.

Each class agree on a set of positive Golden Rules:

1. be gentle
2. be kind and helpful
3. be honest
4. to work hard
5. to look after property
6. to listen to people



## **Levels of Intervention**

In responding to unacceptable behaviour in our school, we have agreed a range of interventions which will assist in helping pupils to recognise and reflect on their behaviour, its impact on others, and will help them to change and get back on track.

We will also listen to and support and strengthen any pupil affected by this behaviour.

In each of the four levels, we have included a list of suggested strategies that can be used to respond to behavioural incidents. This list is not exhaustive but seeks to provide best practice guidance on how to achieve the required change in behaviour and to restore the well-being of all those involved and affected by this behaviour.

## **Monitoring and Evaluating**

Monitoring and evaluating are integral parts of school life and are the responsibility of all members of staff. The principal and Board of Governors will oversee the progress we are making towards fulfilling our aims. The policy will be reviewed every 2 years and following any incident requiring a Level 3 response or above, to assess its suitability in responding and that it is "fit for purpose".

We will collect data and maintain/review records, both written and by C2K Sims Behaviour Management Module to monitor and evaluate effectiveness of the policy and intervention strategies.

\*Please note that during the Covid-19 pandemic it may not be possible to implement the positive behavioural strategies as stated due to mixing of class and bubbles.



## **Behaviour Policy 2020 Covid-19 Addendum**

At Knockloughrim Primary School we aim to maintain a secure, caring and stimulating environment in which children are encouraged to have respect for themselves and each other. Whilst expectations in our Behaviour Policy remain pertinent, it is necessary, in light of the Covid-19 pandemic, to make some adjustments for the safety of all pupils and staff. It is to be used in conjunction with, and read alongside, our Positive Behaviour Policy, Anti-Bullying Policy and E-Safety Policy (all of which will be reviewed in the 2020/21 academic year).

These adjustments are set out below:

### **Arrivals, Departures and Moving round the school.**

Children will enter school through the front gate at the agreed time and will go straight to their designated classroom.

At their designated home time, children will leave the building from their designated exit and be escorted to the school gate. The children will be released to their respective adults collecting them. Adults must socially distance.

In the first 2 weeks at least there will be little to no movement around the school. When the children leave their classroom it will be to go to the toilet or to go outside for their designated play and exercise time. Children will follow an adult from their classroom on their designated route.

Children will be expected to tell a member of staff if they are unwell and are exhibiting signs of Coronavirus by raising their hand.

Children have responsibility for their own equipment e.g. water bottles and ensure that these are not shared with other pupils.

### **Hand washing and Hygiene**

Children will be expected to follow all hand washing and hygiene routines while in school. Children will wash hands when they enter school, after returning from the outside, before and after eating and at regular intervals during the day.

Children will be taught, reminded and expected to follow the “catch it, bin it, kill it”, mantra when in school, if they need to cough or sneeze, they should use a tissue or crook of their arm. Children will be reminded not to touch their face, mouth, nose or eyes while at school.

### **Social Distancing**

Children will be expected to socially distance from adults in school and on the playgrounds at all times, as best they can.

When children enter their classroom, they will be expected to go straight to their desk, sanitise their hands and then sit at their own desk, and nowhere else in the room. Children will be seated facing the front and must stay in their seats. If they need an adult's support, they must raise their hand, but will not get out of their seats. In Foundation Stage we recognise this is not always possible due to the nature and importance of play to the well-being of younger pupils.

We understand socially distancing may be more difficult for younger children, they will be encouraged wherever possible to keep a distance from peers and adults, however, we understand this may not always be possible.

### **Toilets**

Each class will have their own designated toilets to use. When a child has finished in the toilet they must wash their hands following the directions on the posters.

### **Break and Lunch times**

Children will be eating in their classrooms, supervised by Teacher, Classroom Assistant or lunch time supervisor and will have their own designated time place to play and exercise for 45 minutes per day. Children must stay in their designated area at all times.

### **Behaviour Management In School**

The behaviour policy will have this Covid-19 related addendum added as well. Children will be taught new routines and rules that will have to be practised during this pandemic phase that we are living in. As highlighted above there will be less freedom, for example, of movement both within the class and around the school.

Pupils will be expected to:

1. Follow any changes to drop off and pick up routines
2. Follow school instructions on hygiene, such as:
  - Coughing and sneezing into elbow
  - Catch it: Bin it: Kill it – disposing of tissues followed by hand washing and sanitising
  - Keep their hands away from their face as much as possible
  - Only use their own equipment such as pencils and stationery items, water bottles, and only eat their own food.
3. Remain in their own class at all times, unless going to use designated toilets
4. Use designated toilets only.
5. Play safely in the designated zones only.
6. Follow all rules about appropriate behaviour online when and if the children are learning remotely from home (see below).

Each class has systems in place for rewarding all pupils who are demonstrating appropriate behaviours and adhering to both the class rules and these Covid-19 procedures.

If a child's behaviour is deemed high risk, for example, refusing to adhere to safety measures, such as, hand washing, social distancing, remaining in their classes or deliberate behaviours that put themselves or others at risk, such as spitting or deliberately coughing at people. The following sanctions and disciplinary procedures could be used:

1. Conversation(s) with pupil(s) which could include a verbal warning, moving seats if logistically possible and other behaviour management strategies in line with our current behaviour policy.
2. Once all appropriate behaviour management strategies have been exhausted, contact will be made with pupil's parent/carer.
3. If the health and safety of other pupils and staff members are put at risk by the pupils not adhering to social distancing measures, then the parent/carer will be expected to collect the pupil and a fixed term exclusion will be applied in line with Exclusion guidance.

**Pupils working from home.**

If interacting with other pupils or staff online, students should always be kind and respectful to each other and respectful and obedient to staff, remembering at all times that that staff are not 'friends' with, or peers to, pupils.

Students should never attempt to contact staff via social media or make comments about staff on social media platforms. Any inappropriate comments to staff online or any other platform will be taken very seriously. This is also the case of for any online bullying towards other pupils or peer-on-peer abuse that is disclosed to the school during this time.