



All Saints' National School

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CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

MISSION STATEMENT

All Saints' National School is a three teacher school (two mainstream teachers and a shared Special Education Teacher), under the patronage of the Church of Ireland Bishop of Cashel, Ferns and Ossory.

We strive to provide a caring, happy and secure environment where each child can reach his/her potential and where all aspects of a child's education can take place.

We aim to promote children's self-esteem and self confidence in an atmosphere of mutual respect, reflecting the ethos of the Church of Ireland incorporating a balance of faith and culture and fostering respect for all other traditions.

RATIONALE

1. To improve teaching and learning.
2. To ensure an orderly climate in the school.
3. To meet the requirements of the Education Welfare Act 2000.

AIMS

1. To create a climate that encourages and reinforces good behaviour.
2. To create a positive and safe environment for teaching and learning.
3. To encourage students to take personal responsibility for their learning and their behaviour.
4. To help young people to mature into responsible participating citizens.
5. To build positive relationships of mutual respect and mutual support among students, staff and parents.

The following classroom rules have been discussed and agreed upon by the children in the school.

GOLDEN CLASSROOM RULES

1. We are gentle – we do not hurt anybody.
2. We are kind and helpful – we do not hurt people's feelings.
3. We listen – we do not interrupt.
4. We work hard – we do not waste our own or other people's time.
5. We look after property – we do not waste or damage it.
6. We are honest – we do not cover up the truth.

7. We look after each other.
8. We demonstrate good hygiene skills.

Discipline for Learning (DFL)

In our school, we have a positive approach to teaching and learning. Positive rules for behaviour in class and out of class are learned by pupils at the beginning of their school year and on display in classrooms. Pupils are motivated and encouraged to keep these rules.

We have many ways of recognizing good behaviour and effect including awards, buttons, stickers, treats, positive comments and homework passes. The teachers choose students of the week to recognise educational achievements and reinforce positive behaviour. Good behaviour and achievements are recognised and celebrated.

Restorative Practice

Restorative Practice in our school provides a focus on developing positive relationships between all members of the school community. It gives opportunities for pupils to take responsibility for their behaviour and learning. Restorative Practice is a process whereby children are given the opportunity to reflect on their behaviour and how they and others have been affected by it so as to help heal broken relationships and prevent reoccurrence. Where suspension occurs, the school will use restorative practice involving all parties affected to help repair the harm done.

Restorative Questions to respond to Challenging Behaviour

1. What happened?
2. What were you thinking about at the time?
3. What have your thoughts been since?
4. Who has been affected by what you did?
5. In what way have they been affected?
6. What do you think needs to happen to make things right?

To help those harmed by other actions

1. What did you think when you realised what had happened?
2. What have your thoughts been since?
3. How has this affected others?
4. What has been the hardest thing for you?
5. What do you think needs to happen to make things right?

General Guidelines for Behaviour

All pupils are expected to behave in a reasonable manner both to themselves and to others, showing consideration, courtesy and respect for other pupils and adults at all times. Respect must be shown at all times. Respect must be shown for the property of the individual and of the school at all times.

Code of Behaviour

The code of Behaviour covers the following areas:

- Behaviour in class
- Behaviour in the playground
- Behaviour in the school environment and behaviour on school outings
- Attendance at school/Education Welfare Act

Behaviour in class

Courtesy and respect are essential. Disrespectful behaviour towards other pupils or towards other pupils or towards a teacher (e.g. defiance, cheek, insolence) is unacceptable. Pupils must respect the right of other pupils to learn. Any behaviour which interferes with the right (e.g. constant disruption of the class persistent distracting of others) is considered unacceptable behaviour.

In order that pupils benefit from their work in class full co-operation is required at all times. Pupils must co-operate with instructions given by the teacher.

The Essential Classroom Rules

1. Be ready for class
2. Good manners are expected at all times
3. Always do your best and allow others to do the same
4. Raise hand, wait for attention and listen to the person who is speaking
5. Take good care of personal and classroom property
6. Ensure you are safe in class and make it safe for others

Behaviour in the Playground

Pupils should treat others as they would like to be treated themselves. Any behaviour which endangers or offends others is not permitted. Rough behaviour e.g. fighting, kicking, spitting, pushing is forbidden. Games or activities considered to be dangerous shall be prohibited.

Any behaviour which interferes with other pupils play is not permitted. Pupils may not leave the playground for any reason during breaks without permission of the supervising teacher, this includes re-entering the school building.

The Essential out of Class Rules

1. Stay within the boundaries in yard

2. Play safely and fairly. Treat others fairly, the way you would like yourself to be treated
3. Keep yard and school environment litter free and tidy
4. Line up quickly and quietly and leave and return to your classroom in an orderly fashion.

Behaviour in the School Environment & Behaviour on School outings

Respect and courtesy to others is essential. Any kind of verbal or physical abuse of other pupils is unacceptable. Use of bad language among pupils is unacceptable. Bullying or intimidation of other pupils is prohibited and is always regarded as a serious offence. Pupils must show respect for school property at all times.

Pupils are encouraged to be respectful of each other on their way to and from school. When on school outings pupils are expected to behave in an orderly manner and show respect for public property. They should always co-operate fully with their teachers.

Attendance/Education Welfare Act

Under the Education Welfare Act 200, absences or lateness must be explained by a brief note written in school journal and signed by parent. Absences of 20 days or more must be referred by the school to Education Welfare Board. Any child wishing to leave school early must have a note signed by their parent. The Education Welfare Officer is available to support parents with attendance issues. Children with hospital or dental appointments on an ongoing basis should give a copy of appointments to office secretary. Daily attendance and punctuality are required from pupils. School opens to receive pupils at 9.00 am each morning. After a pupil has been absent, a note from the parents must always be brought to the class teacher upon the pupil's return to school. When a pupil has to leave school early (i.e. before 2.45pm) a note from parents must be brought to the class teacher stating the time at which the pupil is to leave.

Homework

It is the policy of the school to assign homework on a regular basis. The time taken for this will vary from child to child, but should in most cases take between 30 minutes and one hour. Homework is recorded in the pupil's journal. Parents should sign the homework journal to confirm that the work has been fully attempted.

If for some reason homework (or part of it) cannot be completed, parents are asked to note this in the homework journal.

Generally, homework is not given at weekends. Written work must be done neatly and carefully. Graffiti on textbooks and copy books is not permitted. Please refer to the school Homework Policy for further information.

Jewellery

Students are permitted to wear stud earrings and watch only.

Mobile phones/iPods/Electronic Games

Use of mobile phones, iPods and electronic games during school hours is strictly forbidden. All phones must be switched off and kept in school bags at all times. Any infringement of this rule will involve the confiscation of the phone and any other electronic equipment and will only be returned to the parent or guardian of the pupil.

School Uniform

All pupils must wear the school uniform.

School journal

The school journal is an important communication tool between parents and the school. Please read and sign the journal each night. Please ensure the personal information page in your school journal is completed.

SANCTIONS

The following sanctions may be implemented by the teachers if a pupil wilfully disregards school rules of behaviour including damage to school property or other pupils' property or any of the rules already outlined.

1. Reasoning with the pupil with a view to helping him/her understand his/her own behaviour, the reasons for it and how to take responsibility for their own behaviour and relationships.
2. Reprimand by the class teacher – requesting that proper behaviour be observed and with advice on how to improve.
3. Separation from peers.
4. Loss of privileges – at teachers' discretion.
5. Kept in during break.
6. Additional work.
7. Reprimand by the Principal.
8. Parents will be asked to come to the school and meet with the teachers to discuss the child's behaviour, with a view to helping parents understand how they can help students to behave well at school.

If all the above fail to achieve the required result the matter will be referred to the Board of Management with a recommendation of suspension for serious misbehaviour. This procedure is used in the case of gross misbehaviour and or health & safety grounds. If there is a single incident of gross misbehaviour the

Principal requests a meeting with the parents. If considered warranted the Principal reserves the right to suspend the pupil for 3 days initially. This power of suspension is delegated to the principal by the school Board of Management. A letter will be sent to the parent outlining the terms of suspension. Written records of serious misbehaviour will be kept in the child's file. Parents of a pupil who has been suspended for 20 school days or more are entitled under Section 29 of the Education Act 1998 to appeal such a suspension.

Expulsion will only be considered as a last resort if all interventions and sanctions have failed and the offending behaviour has not improved.

In the case of suspension and expulsion appeals should be directed to the Board of Management for consideration.

The Board of Management decide the grounds for removing a suspension imposed in relation to a student.

We appreciate parental support in all areas of discipline as it is through working together that we can achieve a happy secure and relaxed environment in which to teach and learn.

The Board of Management reserves the right to review this code, from time to time, as is deemed necessary.

This policy was reviewed in September 2008 and was ratified by the Board of Management of All Saints National School at its meeting on the 14th October 2008.

This policy was reviewed at the Board of Management meeting on the 12th December 2012. It was also reviewed on May 9th 2013 and May 19th 2016, January 23rd 2020 and June 10th 2020.

Signed: Linda Dunne
Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed: Andrea McAssey
Principal