

An Cód Smachta/Code of Discipline

1. This code of behavior and discipline is intended to ensure that each individual gets fair play, while at the same time making sure that the general bodies of children have the proper environment in which to learn.
2. Every effort will be made by the members of the staff to adopt a *positive* approach to the question of behavior in the school.
3. The school wishes to place greater emphasis on *reward* and *praise* than on punishment and criticism.
4. A high standard of behaviour depends on a high level of co-operation between parents, staff and pupils.
5. The school rules are being kept to a minimum and are clearly stated.
6. All efforts will be made to match the children's ability to the work they do and are expected to do. Pupils will be referred for assessment at an early stage.
7. The overall responsibility for discipline within the school rests with the Principal. Each teacher has responsibility for the maintenance of discipline within his/her classroom *while sharing a common responsibility for good order within the school premises*. A pupil will be referred to the Principal for serious breaches of discipline and for repeated incidents of minor misbehavior.

The following ways will be used to deal with unacceptable behavior.

- Reasoning with the pupil.
 - Reprimand (including advice on how to improve).
 - Temporary separation from classmates, friends and others.
 - Communication with parents.
 - Prescribing additional constructive work (not lines).
 - Loss of minor privileges i.e. John Donegan, P.E. etc.
 - Pupils may be sent to other classes or resource rooms.
 - Referral to Principal.
 - Principal informs parents and meets with one/both parents.
 - Loss of privileges i.e. participation in school tours and trips organized after school activities.
 - Chairperson of Board of Management informed and parents requested to meet with Chairperson and Principal.
 - Suspension (Temporary).
Pupils may not be left on their own under any circumstance.
8. Teachers shall keep a written official record of all instances of misbehaviour as well as a record of improvements in the behaviour of disruptive pupils. Before resorting to serious sanctions i.e. suspensions, the normal channel of communication between school and parents will be utilised. Parents will be involved at an early stage, rather than a last resort. Communication with parents will be verbal or by letter, depending on circumstances. The parents concerned will be invited to come to the school to discuss their child's case. Gross or violent misbehaviour will be regarded as serious misbehaviour depending on circumstances.

9. Where there are repeated instances of serious misbehaviour, the Chairperson of the Board of Management will be informed and the parents will be requested in writing to attend at the school to meet the Chairperson and the Principal. If the parents do not give the undertaking that the pupil will behave in an acceptable manner in the future the pupil may have to be suspended for a Temporary period. Suspension will be in accordance with the terms of Rule 130 (5) of the Rules of National Schools.
10. In the case of gross misbehaviour the Board authorises the Chairperson or Principal to sanction an immediate suspension pending a discussion of the matter with the parents. Where the Principal sanctions an immediate suspension this must be notified in writing by him/her to the Chairperson not later than 48 Hrs. following the suspension.
11. Expulsion may be considered in an extreme case, in accordance with Rule 130(6).
12. Every effort will be made to provide professional support for children who need it. No child will ever be referred for assessment without the permission and goodwill of that child's parents.
13. This code of Discipline was submitted to the Board of Management on 17/01/2002.and following consideration and amendment was sanctioned by them and is now presented in that form.
14. A copy of this code will be made available to all parents.
15. Every effort will be made by the Principal and staff to ensure that parents are kept well informed, that the school provides a welcoming atmosphere towards parents and that parents are not only told when their children are in trouble but when they have behaved particularly well.
16. The code will be reviewed at agreed intervals.

Please return this section to the school.

I have read the Code of Discipline, Bullying Policy and School Rules and I accept the rules of the above school.

Tá rialacha na scoile/an cód smachta/bulaíochta léite agam agus glacaim leo.

Signed. / Sínithe _____
Parent/Guardian

Date_____.

Rialacha na Scoile/School Rules

1. Proper behaviour can be learned in much the same manner as any school subject: it cannot be acquired if left to chance.
2. Irish is the spoken language of the school and from Senior Infants on, all are expected to speak it. It is expected that parents will give the children every encouragement and use whatever Irish they have themselves in the school surroundings and in the home.
3. Each child is expected to be well behaved and to show consideration for other children and adults.
4. Rough play in the school or in the playground will not be tolerated.
5. Parents of children who deliberately damage school property will be required to make restitution.
6. Bad language will not be tolerated.
7. Children are not allowed outside the school gate during the day unless a note has been given the child's teacher e.g shop, medical appointment.
8. Children are expected to wear their school uniform always except for days that their particular class have P.E. On this day children with a school track suit may wear their tracksuit to school. Children who do not have a school tracksuit must wear their school uniform and change into their own tracksuit at school. This does not apply to children in the infant classes. Please remember that children should wear runners at all times for P.E.
9. All children should be in their classroom at 8.50 am. This habit of punctuality has to be acquired and will be necessary for the child through his/her life. The parent's co-operation in this is vital. Parents should collect their children from the designated point at 1.30/ 2.30 pm.
10. Running is not allowed within school premises or on their way to school playground.
11. Children should have a sense of pride in their school and in the environment and should not litter the area.
12. Tippex or similar products are not allowed to be used by pupils in the school.
13. Gaelscoil de hÍde is a healthy eating school and pupils are expected to have a healthy lunch everyday.(See healthy eating policy)
14. The carrying of dangerous weapons is strictly forbidden at school or school related events.
15. Mobile phones must be switched off before entering school grounds and handed up to class teachers every morning and they will be returned to the pupil at 2.30 pm.

