

St Finian's Primary School



Positive behaviour Discipline Policy

Behavioural Statement

In St Finian's Primary School we aim to provide a caring and secure environment in which all children can develop their full potential while growing in self esteem and confidence.

Integral to this is the recognition of the worth and value of every child, the fostering of the key values of Catholic Education and the promotion of mutual understanding and respect for others.

In order to accomplish this we seek to foster a sense of community within the school where children, parents and staff support each other in the task of educating our children.

Rationale:

We aim to promote a caring school which values all who are part of it, creating an atmosphere of mutual respect in which the children feel secure and happy and all staff work together as a team, supportive of one another and sensitive to each other's needs.

Aims of the Policy

- to encourage each child to develop self-discipline, self-esteem, self-respect and respect for others
- to develop a learning community where children co-operate with each other, work and play together and take responsibility for their own actions
- to establish a set of rules and routines which will be supported consistently by all members of the school community, in order to protect the rights of the children to learn and the teachers to teach

Rights of the Child

Children have the right to:-

- be treated fairly and consistently
- to learn and play in a safe and secure environment within clearly defined and fairly administered codes of conduct
- to voice an opinion and state ideas and to have these views listened to

Responsibilities

Children have a number of responsibilities and these include:-

- come prepared for school
- respect the rights of others and therefore not to engage in bullying
- to be considerate to the needs of other children and to ensure they do not keep others from being taught or from learning

- accept responsibility for their own behaviour
- co-operate with staff and their peers showing respect for others at all times

Rights of the Parent

Parents have the right to

- have their children educated to the best possible standard
- have reasonable access to the school and have their enquiries dealt with sympathetically and efficiently
- be informed of their child's progress
- be informed about school rules and procedures
- a broad and balanced and appropriate curriculum for their children
- be informed promptly if their child is ill or has an accident, or if the school has concerns about a child
- have their children protected while in the school environment
- be treated with courtesy and respect

Responsibilities

Parents have a number of responsibilities and these include:-

- ensure their child attends school regularly, is equipped with the right books and equipment and support the school to the best of their ability
- be aware of the school rules and procedures and adhere to them at all times
- attend planned meetings with the teachers
- provide the school with all necessary background information about the child including telling the school about any concerns they have about their child or any significant change in their child's medical needs or home circumstances
- ensure children are well enough to attend school
- be committed to the education of their children
- show respect to all within the school environment

Rights of the Staff

Teachers have the right to:-

- work in an environment where common courtesies and social conventions are respected
- express their views and contribute to policies which they are required to reflect in their work
- support and advice from senior colleagues and external bodies
- adequate and appropriate resources and accommodation
- be treated with respect by all with whom they come in contact e.g. pupils, parents, visitors
- enjoy working in a productive environment

Responsibilities

Teachers have a number of responsibilities and these include:-

- seek to create a positive learning environment for their pupils in which pupils get rewarded for positive behaviour and achievement
- behave in a professional manner at all times
- show interest and enthusiasm for the work in hand and in their pupils' learning
- seek advice and/or help from colleagues
- identify and seek to meet the needs of their pupils
- expect high standards and acknowledge effort and achievement in all areas of work
- treat children and parents with respect

Rewards

We apply a system of rewards that is intended to be fair and effective for all our pupils. These rewards are intended to contribute to the ethos of the school and involve all staff. They are aimed at promoting and reinforcing good behaviour and promoting self-esteem. They encourage each pupil take responsibility for their own actions and to have their efforts recognised and rewarded. Set out below are some of the methods used to reward good behaviour:

- verbal rewards
- celebration of a child good behaviour in his/her own class
- points system leading to award of merit star badges and treasure chest prizes
- gold, silver and bronze awards
- a word of praise for the child to parents at the end of the day
- Star of the Week awarded at assembly
- Good behaviour mentioned in assembly
- Stickers issued
- Children praised at 'line up' time
- Children sent to another teacher to receive praise
- Children sent to the Principal to receive praise
- Appropriate comments included in parent/teacher consultations
- Work displayed in the school

Sanctions

Sanctions are an integral part of the school's behaviour policy. They help to uphold the rules and procedures, they provide the children with the security of clearly defined boundaries and, in so doing, they encourage appropriate and acceptable behaviour. They will be applied consistently and fairly to all children, ensuring the self-esteem of the child is kept intact. Sanctions will as necessary take into account the age and the

degree of maturity of the child, any special needs he/she might have and any other relevant information concerning the child.

The following sanctions will be used in St Finian's Primary School and will be followed in a sequential order

- a disapproving look
- a gesture
- a rule reminder
- a warning or recording of a child's name
- rearrange seating – this could for the short or medium term
- 'Time out' - being sent to another class for a short period to allow for a period of reflection on his/her actions
- 'Time Out' for unacceptable behaviour at playtime. If this is persistent, the child will have loss of playtime

By this stage there will have been discussions with the child about his/her behaviour and the teacher may well have made some notes about the types of misdemeanour engaged in by the child and the frequency of occurrence.

- Removal of privileges
- Initial contact with the parents to advise of the persistent nature of the poor behaviour
- Child placed on a daily report record. Teacher will discuss the causes of the problems with the child and will set targets to attempt to improve behaviour
- Child is referred to the Principal who will offer counselling
- communication is established with the parents
- Principal and parents are involved in an effort to find a resolution
- Child is placed on the Special Needs register and an Individual Education Plan is drawn up
- The child is referred to the Educational Psychologist and advice is sought from Behaviour Support Team
- The Board of Governors are involved
- CCMS Scheme for the Suspension and Expulsion of pupils is invoked

Rules

The following rules have been devised through consultation with the children

Work Rule

We come to school ready to work
We do our best work
'Work talk is soft talk'
We allow others to do their work
We ask for help by putting our hand up

Care Rule

We show good manners
We try to help each other
We take care of our own property
We care for everything in our school
We tell the truth

Safety Rule

We use the toilets properly and safely
We put our rubbish in the bin
We play safely
We keep our classroom tidy
We always walk in school
We need special permission to leave the school

Treatment Rule

We work and play together
We let others join in our games
We line up quickly and quietly
We solve our problems without hurting anyone
We tell if someone is bullying

Visitor Rule

We greet visitors to our school in mannerly way
We continue to work quietly when teacher is speaking
We help the visitor find their way around the school