

# Scoil Tighearnach Noafa, Cullohill



## Code of Behaviour and Discipline

### AIMS

The aim of this code is to ensure that the individuality of each child is accommodated while acknowledging the right of each child to education in a relatively disruption-free environment.

The School recognises the variety of differences that exist between children and the need to accommodate these differences as far as possible. We include here differences of culture, religion, intellectual ability and interests.

Every effort will be made by all members of staff to adopt a positive approach to the question of behaviour in the school. This code offers a framework within which positive techniques of motivation and encouragement are utilised by teachers.

### Rewards

Each classroom has its own system of rewards for effort as well as for work well done. All the teachers continually praise the children in their classes.

### Rules

Rules are kept to a minimum in our school and devised with the health, safety and welfare of all members of the school community in mind and are based on respect for self and fellow pupils, staff and other adults responsible for them, as well as respect for school property.

### Rules and procedures

- 1: School Hours: 9.20 am – 2.00 pm (Infants)  
9.20 am – 3.00 pm (1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> class)
- 2: Children may only leave school with a parent – otherwise written notification to the teacher is essential. Children must be signed out in the office before leaving the school premises.
- 3: It is forbidden to go beyond the school boundaries – onto the road, climb the wall, or trespass in neighbouring premises, except with teacher's permission.
- 4: In compliance with our school policy children are required to wear the school uniform on school days and the school track-suit on P.E./Games days.

Wearing the uniform contributes to the discipline in the school and parents are asked to ensure that pupils are not negligent with regard to this matter.

- 5: All children are expected to be clean in person and clothing. Particular attention should be paid to hair and footwear. Indoor footwear is compulsory.
- 6: Roughness in the school during class and at playtime will not be tolerated. We ask your co-operation in encouraging gentleness and respect for others in your children.
- 7: If a child is absent from school, a note stating the reason for the absence is expected on his/her return.
- 8: In conclusion, parents can co-operate with us the teachers by encouraging their children to abide by the school rules, by visiting the school when requested to do so and by ensuring that homework is allocated due time and effort by the child. Good manners and respect for the teachers are essential to the happy atmosphere of our school.

### **General School Discipline**

The overall responsibility for discipline within our school rests with the principal, Ms Bowe. Each teacher has responsibility for the maintenance of discipline within her classroom while sharing a common responsibility for good order within the school premises. A supervision rota is in operation at break/lunch times. A pupil may be referred to the principal for serious breaches of discipline or for repeated incidents of minor misbehaviour. Parents are asked to share a sense of responsibility for the good conduct of the pupils and thereby support the creation of a proper atmosphere of learning in the classroom where schoolwork can proceed without interruption.

### **Strategies**

The following strategies are considered by us to be appropriate ways to show disapproval of unacceptable behaviour.

- 1: Reasoning with pupil
- 2: Reprimand (including advice on how to improve)
- 3: Temporary separation from peers, friends or others. Pupil may spend some time in another classroom.
- 4: Loss of privileges.
- 5: Detention during a break
- 6: Prescribing additional work for home or school.
- 7: Referral to Principal.
- 8: Communication with parents.
- 9: Suspension.
- 10: Teachers in our school keep a written record of all instances of serious misbehaviour. Before resorting to serious sanctions e.g. suspension, the normal channels of communication between school and parents will be utilised. For gross

misbehaviour or repeated instances of serious misbehaviour suspension will be considered. Aggressive threatening or violent behaviour towards a teacher will be regarded as serious or gross behaviour. The Chairperson of the B.O.M. will be informed and the parents will be requested in writing to attend at the school to meet the Chairperson and the teacher. If the parents do not give an undertaking that the pupil will behave in an acceptable manner in the future the pupil may have to be suspended for a temporary period. Expulsion may be considered in an extreme case. Every effort will be made to have an emotionally disturbed child referred for psychological assessment without delay.

11: Good discipline in our school depends upon co-operation between parents and teachers. A consistent attitude between parents and teachers and support for each other's role gives a pupil the security, which is essential to his/her well being and happiness in school, and will contribute to his/her progress in learning.

I agree with this Code of Behaviour.

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(Parent's signature)

This policy was discussed and unanimously adopted by the Board of Management of the school at a Board meeting on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2005.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Management.

This Code was reviewed and ratified in March 2007 and again in June 2013 and will be reviewed again in 2016.

