

St. Brigid's School Behaviour Policy

This document is a statement of the principles and strategies for managing children's behaviour in St. Brigid's School.

It was reviewed through a process of consultation with staff and parents.

The Board of Management approved it in 2011. This reviewed policy is fully implemented as of 3rd March 2011.

This policy is very much a pro-active positive policy:

- It recognises that the vast majority of our students are well behaved.
 - It works to actively re-enforce and reward this good behaviour.
 - It recognises the impact poor behaviour has on learning and teaching and on reading achievement.
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- Good behaviour must be taught and developed through role play and regular reinforcement.
 - Effective classroom management, the setting of high expectations and a consistency of approach will help achieve this end.
 - It is the responsibility of every member of staff to do this and to work together to achieve this end.
 - This policy must be viewed in conjunction with several other inter-related policies:
 - Anti-bullying Policy
 - Child Protection Policy (Children First Guidelines)
 - Critical Incident Policy

Foreword

Behaviour, which respects the rights of all children to learn and teachers to teach, is fundamental to all children's success at school.

This policy provides a basis upon which our school will establish effective behaviour codes and these codes will provide the framework for a safe, orderly, happy, productive and success oriented learning environment in St. Brigid's.

Our school behaviour policy will endeavour to ensure that all children in St. Brigid's exhibit two essential components of successful learning in schools: mutual respect and responsible behaviour.

The focus should be and will be on providing opportunities and supports for the children to experience success in a positive and affirming environment.

Rationale

This policy is based on the following principles:

- St. Brigid's has a responsibility to prepare our pupils for fulfilling participation in society.
- All individuals within the school both staff and pupils, should treat each other with respect at all times.

- **Behaviour has consequences which increase or reduce choices in life.**
- **Individuals must accept responsibility for their own behaviour.**
- **The Board of Management, teachers, staff and parents will work together to provide an environment which is:**
 - **Safe**
 - **Inclusive**
 - **Conducive to learning**
 - **Free from harassment and bullying**

This behaviour policy provides a framework for the development of such an environment, based on the following:-

Classroom Golden Rules

WE ARE GENTLE

WE ARE KIND AND HELPFUL

WE LISTEN

WE ARE HONEST

WE WORK HARD

WE LOOK AFTER PROPERTY

Playground Golden Rules

WE ARE GENTLE

WE ARE KIND AND HELPFUL

WE PLAY WELL WITH OTHERS

WE CARE FOR THE PLAYGROUND

WE LISTEN

WE ARE HONEST

WE KEEP THE PLAYGROUND SAFETY RULES

Rewards System

Positive Behaviours will be rewarded so teacher should frequently:

STOP, SCAN, CATCH THEM BEING GOOD

Teacher should set out clear expectations at all times, during lessons and out in the yard, including:-

- ❖ Remaining in seat and getting on with work assigned (If child/student has tendency to get out of seat frequently, reward for short periods in seat and increase accordingly).
- ❖ Showing courtesy and good manners.
- ❖ Playing safely and not doing anything to endanger others.
- ❖ Having all homework completed.
- ❖ Paying attention and actively participating in class lesson.
- ❖ Walking around school building.
- ❖ Any behaviours which the staff deems to set a good example.

When giving a pupil a reward, staff members should clearly identify why the pupil is getting the reward and what behaviour has been exemplified.

Rewards for Positive Behaviour in Primary School

Teacher will teach the class reward system - e.g.

- Golden Time
- Tokens
- Visual wall display
- Positive messages sent home

As part of the Monday morning assembly teachers should go through the weeks timetable, highlight high interest activities and teach specific Social Skills and Golden rules for that week. These skills will be re-enforced by the staff on a daily basis.

Strategies

There are consequences that will follow if the behaviour persists.

1. Quiet word with pupil, with reminder of social skills/Golden rules. Remind pupil s/he has choices to make. Staff should use skills and techniques acquired on TCI course to address issues with child.

2. Behaviour persists. Write note to Senior Teacher detailing behaviours. Send child with note to Senior Teacher.
3. Parents will be kept informed of the child's behaviour.
4. Behaviour persists. Send note to Principal. Principal sends for named pupil.
5. Behaviour persists. Pupil is sent to Principal. Principal notifies parents in writing of child's behaviour, detailing behaviours and inviting parents to the school to discuss child's behaviour and to assist in formulating an Individual Behaviour Plan for child. Letter also lets parents know that they will be invited to visit the school if the behaviour persists. (It is absolutely vital to the whole process that the teacher/SNA writes down exactly what was the child's misbehaviour)
6. Behaviour persists. Pupil sent to Principal. Principal writes to parents inviting them to the school to discuss pupil's behaviour. Parents will be informed at meeting that if pupil's misbehaviour persists, pupil may be suspended for three school days.

Serious Misbehaviour

Immediately send to the Principal. Letter home to parents informing them of behaviour and inviting them to meeting in school.

If a pupil is sent to the Principal for serious misbehaviour over a period of time and after the parents have visited the school to discuss the pupil's behaviour, the serious misbehaviour persists, then the next sanction is:

- Suspension (Temporary – Three Days) Written notification sent out to parents by registered post signed by Chairman of Board of Management informing the parents / guardians that pupil was being suspended from school and the dates of the suspension stated in the letter. Parents / guardians will be invited to visit school during suspension without pupil.
- Suspension will be in accordance with the terms of Rule 130 (5) of the Rules of National Schools.
- Before resorting to serious sanction e.g. suspension, the normal channels of communication between school and home will be utilized.
- Parent must accompany child to school after serious misdemeanor
- Staff member involved will receive apology in front of parent

Persistent Misbehaviour/Challenging Behaviour

- **Children who do not respond positively to current policy will have an individual behaviour plan drawn up involving all relevant personnel.**
- **Therapeutic Crisis Intervention Strategies will be used if appropriate with individual children.**

Review date: _____

This policy was reviewed and ratified by the Board of Management at a meeting on _____

Signed: _____

Chair, Board of Management

Date: __ __/__ __/__ __