

2015-2016 - includes
- Sanctions
for older class

Code of Behaviour



Ard Rí Community National School

Bealreask Old,

Navan,

County Meath.

Roll Number 20352T

Ard Rí Community National School, Balreask Old, Navan, County Meath.

Code of Behaviour

Aims:

- a. In devising the code, consideration has to be given to the particular needs and circumstances of the school. The aim is to create a positive environment that is conducive to learning, in which the pupils can develop self-discipline, feel secure and make progress in all aspects of their development.
- b. We endorse the ethos of Community National Schools.
- c. Every effort will be made by all members of staff to adopt a positive approach to behaviour in the school.

Principles:

- a. The school recognises the varieties of differences that exist between children and the need to accommodate these differences.
- b. It is agreed that a high standard of behaviour requires a strong sense of community within the school and a high level of co-operation among staff and between staff, parents and pupils.
- c. Every effort will be made to ensure that the code of discipline is implemented in a reasonable, fair and consistent manner.
- d. This code incorporates our values and standards for the entire school and the rules apply to all partners in education.
- e. It is the policy of this school not to use any form of corporal punishment whatsoever and we encourage and advise our parents not to resort to it either
- f. All interactions should be founded from a place of mutual respect.

This code of behaviour will be available on the school's website and given to parents on the enrolment of their child. Parents will be required to sign the Code of Behaviour and return it as a sign of acceptance of the code and its contents.

School Rules:

Smile, dream big, be fair,
Tell the truth, do your best, be prepared,
Laugh, have fun and share
Spread your happiness everywhere.

The yard motto:

Kind hands, kind feet, kind words.

Note: To promote positive life skills in our children we ask that parents ensure that:

- Your child arrives to school on time.
- Your child is collected from school on time.
- Your child is wearing the full school uniform.
- Your child completes their homework, as assigned.
- Your child has a lunch that will sustain them for the school day.

Strategies

No code of behaviour can be so exhaustive as to cater for all eventualities, therefore we as a staff will be flexible in implementing the code so as to respond effectively to the individual needs and context of each child. This may take form as an Individual Education Plan. As such Individual behaviour plans will reflect the Code of Behaviour as closely as is possible for the individual child.

A. Positive behaviour will be reinforced by:

- 1) A quiet word or gesture to show approval.
- 2) A word of praise in front of a group or class.
- 3) A system of merits (i.e. Class Dojo/ Warm Fuzzies).
- 4) Communication of positive behaviour with the home through the use of Good News Notes and / or verbal communication of good behaviour as the children are collected at home time.

- 5) A visit to another member of staff or to the Principal for commendation.
- 6) Student of the week and student of the month celebrations during assembly.

B. Disapproval of unacceptable behaviour may be dealt with as follows:

- 1) A quiet word or gesture to show disapproval.
- 2) Quiet reasoning with pupil.
- 3) Warning- The child will receive a black card. The incident will be recorded in the Class Discipline Book.
- 4) Yellow Card- If the misdemeanours persist or in the case of a more serious misdemeanour the child will be given a Yellow Card.
 - They will be moved to a yellow card area where they will remain on a time out for five minutes. When the time is up the teacher returns to the child, discusses the incident and when the child apologises they may return to their seat.
 - The incident will be recorded in the Class Discipline Book.
 - The child must complete a Consequence Sheet which is to be signed by a parent and presented to Darragh at 9.30am the following morning.
- 5) Red Card- If there is another yellow card incident in the same day the child will be given a Red Card. If there are three yellow card incidents in two weeks the child will go to the red card area. If there is an incident of serious misdemeanour e.g. persistent disruption, stealing, damaging property, bullying, back answering a member of staff, using unacceptable language, deliberately injuring another, racist or sexual comments the child will be given a Red Card..
 - They will be moved to the red card area/ another teacher's room/ the Principal.
 - Parents will be notified of the incident as soon as possible. A suitable reprimand will be put in place in co-operation with the parents on a child by child basis.

Procedures:

The degree of all misdemeanours will be determined by the judgement of the professional body of staff. In addition, serious or gross misdemeanours will be determined and recorded by evidence based practice through the use of:

- Formal recording of observations by staff.
- Serious Misdemeanour report forms.

In the event of **recurring** serious or gross incidents with an individual student Antecedent, Behaviour and Consequence charts will be implemented, in addition to the aforementioned procedures.

Examples of Minor Misdemeanours

- Interrupting class work,
- Running in school building
- Not following instructions from staff
- Leaving seat without permission at lunch time
- Leaving litter around school
- Being discourteous or unmannerly

Examples of serious misdemeanours

- Persistent disruption of class
- Telling lies
- Stealing
- Damaging property
- Bullying
- Back answering a member of staff
- Leaving the school premises during the school day without appropriate permission
- Not working to their potential
- Using unacceptable language
- Deliberately injuring a fellow pupil or any staff

Suspension

In the case of a serious offence or repeated continual less serious misdemeanours a student may be suspended from school. The authority to suspend lies in the following persons:

Principal: May suspend a child for up to three days

Principal and Chairperson B.O.M.(Manager): May suspend a child for up to five days.

B.O.M. (Single Manager): May suspend a child for up to ten days.

Examples of offences that warrant suspension are:

- Where the behaviour of the child has a serious detrimental effect on the education of the other children;
- Where the child poses a threat to the safety of other children, staff, themselves or others;
- Where there has been serious damage to property;

When a child is suspended from school their parents / guardians will receive written notification confirming:

- The period of suspension and dates
- Reasons for suspension
- Arrangements for returning to school including any commitments to be entered into by the pupil and parents
- Provision to appeal the Manager
- Notification of the right to Section 29 Appeal if the total number of days exceed twenty
- Allowances will be made for parents with reading and language difficulties

If a suspension exceeds six school days a report will be furnished by the school to the National Educational Welfare Board.

Examples of gross misdemeanours

- Unauthorised absence from school
- Setting fire to school property
- Deliberately leaving taps on
- Interfering with fire safety equipment
- Aggressive, threatening or violent behaviour towards staff/ pupils
- Smoking/drinking alcohol/ Possessing or using drugs
- Overt sexual behaviour
- Deliberately injuring a fellow pupil

- Repeated bullying of other pupils

Expulsion

In the case of expulsion, the authority to expel will rest solely with the BOM/ Single Manager.

Grounds for expulsion include but are not limited to the following;

- Behaviour is a persistent cause of significant disruption to the learning of others or to the teaching process
- The continued presence of the pupil constitutes a real significant threat to the safety of the staff, pupils, child themselves or others
- Where the pupil is responsible for serious damage of property

The difference between behaviours that warrant suspension and expulsion are:

- The degree of seriousness and persistence of behaviour
- Where an expulsion is considered a series of interventions will have been attempted by the school
- All possibilities within the power of the school of changing the child's behaviour will have been exhausted (with exception of cases warranting automatic expulsion)

The B.O.M./ Single Manager may automatically expel a child for the following prescribed behaviours or in exceptional cases for a first offence, including;

- Sexual assault
- Possessing illegal drugs/selling illegal drugs to other pupils
- Actual violence or physical assault
- Serious threat of violence against another pupil or member of staff

The following procedures in respect for expulsion will generally be followed.

- A detailed investigation will be carried out under the direction of the principal
- A recommendation by the principal to expel the child will be given to the B.O.M./ Single Manager

- The B.O.M./ Single Manager will consider the principal's recommendation and will hold a hearing
- The B.O.M./ Single Manager will decide whether or not expulsion is appropriate
- The E.W.O. (Educational Welfare Officer) will be informed and there will be a 20 day cooling off period after which a confirmation or otherwise of the decision to expel will be decided.

Declaration of Equal Status for Ard Rí Community National School

The staff and pupils in this school have a right to work for and learn in a safe supportive environment. In the interest of pupil and staff safety this school will not tolerate verbal abuse, threatening behaviour or physical violence.

Under the Equal Status Act 2000, offenders will be reported to Gardaí

Serious Misdemeanour Report Form

Student's Name: _____

Date: _____

Teacher: _____

Room: _____

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Constantly disruptive in class<input type="checkbox"/> Telling lies<input type="checkbox"/> Stealing<input type="checkbox"/> Damaging school property of other pupil's property<input type="checkbox"/> Bullying<input type="checkbox"/> Back answering a member of staff<input type="checkbox"/> Endangering self/ fellow pupils in the school yard at break time. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Leaving the school premises during the school day without appropriate permission<input type="checkbox"/> Not working to their potential<input type="checkbox"/> Using unacceptable language<input type="checkbox"/> Deliberately injuring a fellow pupil or any member of staff<input type="checkbox"/> Not following instruction given by a member of staff |
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Supporting Details:

Actions Taken:

Outcomes: