

*Gaelscoil Bhrian Bórimhe,  
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## CODE OF BEHAVIOUR 2022

**Introduction:** The code of behaviour was developed by the school community. It is based on the established good practices and on the guidelines from the NEWB in relation to developing a Code of Behaviour.

The school community wishes to provide a safe enjoyable environment where pupils can develop their natural potential. The Code of Behaviour helps develop and protect that atmosphere. This document provides the guidelines for standards of behaviour and the measures used to bring about those standards.

**School's Mission Statement:** *'The school wishes to provide first-class education through the medium of Irish to its pupils, where the child is central and developing as a whole person. Each child is recognised as an individual in his/her own right and is treated justly. Self-respect and respect for others and for other cultures is always nurtured.'*

A co-operative spirit based on mutual respect between all the members of the school community helps develop and maintain a happy atmosphere in the school. A lot depends on good relations and a gentle approach with all involved in the learning environment

Each teacher is responsible for expecting a high standard of behaviour in his/her own classroom, on yard supervision, during school activities and from all pupils in the school environment. Special Needs Assistants have a special role in guiding pupils' behaviour under their care.

Along with the following rules and procedures, children also take an active role in establishing classroom rules with their teachers. Rules are kept simple and age appropriate and with a focus on positive behaviour.

## Standards of Behaviour

- Gaelscoil Bhrian Bóroimhe promotes the following Golden Rules to help ensure good behaviour:
- Take care of possessions
- Take care of people
- Try your best
- Respect yourself and others
- Be kind / Show kindness
- Be honest
- Be gentle
- Be mannerly
- Speak in Irish (We expect the children to speak in Irish in school, on the yard and during school organised activities except during English lessons)

*\*Competition to take place every second year between classes to re-inforce awareness of the rules and to enable new rules to be created or current rules adjusted.*

**As well as the golden rules we strongly encourage the following values and behaviours:**

- Respect yourself and others
- Kindness and a willingness to help others
- Courtesy and good manners
- Equality
- To resolve difficulties and conflict in a respectful way
- Forgiveness
- Always try your best
- Attend school regularly and in time
- Comply with rules
- Help to create and maintain a safe and positive school environment
- Respect others students and their learning
- Respect school property and belongings
- Take part fully in school activities

**The following behaviour is not tolerated in the school or in school related activities:**

- bullying and cyber-bullying of other children
- answering back cheekily
- lifting others or pushing others to ground
- throwing objects at others
- hitting others
- fighting, rough play
- spitting
- foul language
- name-calling
- using insulting labels or references to other people
- interfering with another's property
- damaging of school property intentionally or through vandalism
- any other behaviour inappropriate to the learning environment.

(Children will be encouraged to inform the person in charge if interfered with in any of the above ways.)

**Discipline procedures:**

- Children who break the rules will be disciplined for their own sake, as well as for the benefit of the other children and the school as a whole.
- Emphasis will be placed on the behaviour. The child while retaining ownership of his/her behaviour must be separated from it. Labels are to be avoided at all times.
- Children will be spoken to as privately as possible to avoid embarrassment.
- Children will be encouraged to give an account of what happened. A genuine effort will be made to help them understand the hurt they have caused and they will be encouraged to suggest more appropriate behaviour.
- At times, in order to foster self-reflection, the child may be asked to write a written report, in their own words, as to what happened, have it signed by class teacher/principal and sent home to be signed by parent/guardian.
- Children will be helped to deal with the emotions which caused the inappropriate behaviour.
- Improvements in behaviour will be acknowledged and due praise given.
- \*\*Some children may have additional needs that necessitate either or both reinforcement and/or exceptions to rules. We will endeavour to work out the best way forward with these children, teachers, SETs, SNAs and their parents/guardians.

**A written account will be kept of continuous misbehaviour and of incidences of serious misbehaviour.**

### **Recording of misbehaviour / The Behaviour Book**

Every teacher keeps a record of regular minor misbehaviours, serious misbehaviours and very serious misbehaviours. If a particular child's misbehaviour is frequently recorded it is recommended to also record their good behaviour.

At the end of the year each teacher returns written records of misbehaviours to the office, behaviours recorded on Aladdin remain available on that platform.

### **Promoting good behaviour**

The school staff makes regular references to good behaviour and good behaviour is recognised and praised. The Golden Rules are referred to regularly at assembly and classes with the best behaviour are often rewarded with prizes.

Alongside these measures, different strategies are used throughout the school to encourage good behaviour – Golden Time, Class Dojo, Table of the Week, pupil of the day/week etc.

### **Behaviour Management System in the Yard**

In the case of continuous misbehaviour, serious misbehaviour and very serious misbehaviour the supervising teacher needs to inform the class teacher. The class teacher then needs to record the incident.

### **Bullying**

The school has an anti-bullying policy for pupils as well as a policy relating to harassment among adults in the building.

### **Minor misbehaviour**

- It is the responsibility of the class teacher to deal with minor incidents in the classroom in an appropriate way.
- In the case of continuous misbehaviour, a note describing the misbehaviour will be sent to the parent(s) requesting acknowledgment.
- The teacher will speak to the parent if necessary. If misbehaviour continues, a home/school correction plan will be drawn up to be monitored and reviewed.

### **Serious misbehaviour**

- A note will be sent home, informing parent(s) and requesting acknowledgement. Parents may be requested to meet the class teacher/principal.
- If the behaviour does not improve, parents will be required to meet the Principal. A home/school plan will be drawn up to be monitored and reviewed.
- Should the pupil commit a serious offence three times in a term, the Chairperson and the Board of Management will be informed and the parents will be required to meet the Principal. In these cases the Principal will discuss the matter with Chairperson of the Board.
- If the Principal deems it necessary to suspend a child due to serious misbehaviour, approval must be sought from the Board of Management. If the Board of Management deems that the situation warrants suspension;

\*The parent(s) will be informed immediately by the Principal.

\*At the end of the period of suspension the child must be accompanied to the classroom by a parent and give a guarantee of future good behaviour.

\*The initial period of suspension will be for one day, a second period for two days etc., except in circumstances which warrant a longer period. (in accordance with Dept. of Education Rules, rule 130 (5)).

### **Very serious misbehaviour**

- In the case where a child's misbehaviour is so serious or where the behaviour poses a threat to the child in question or others in the class/school or the child's behaviour is deemed to be unmanageable by the teacher, the Principal may find it necessary to contact the parent/guardian of the child to have the child removed immediately from the school and may subsequently request approval from the Chairperson to suspend the child forthwith.
- In such a case the parent(s) will be informed immediately and will meet the Principal. In these cases the Principal will discuss the matter with Chairperson of the Board.
- In the situation where the school and parents have exhausted their range of skills in dealing with persistent inappropriate behaviour, the seeking of appropriate professional guidance will be recommended.
- If the need should ever arise to expel a child, permission must previously be sought and granted to the Board of Management by the Patron.

## Absence Reports


All schools are asked to submit information about individual student absences at regular intervals throughout the year on designated dates.

As a school we are obliged to report to TUSLA when one or more of the following criteria apply:

- a student is expelled
- a student has been suspended for 6 days or more cumulatively
- a student has reached 20 days absence cumulatively
- a principal is concerned about a student's attendance
- a student's name is to be removed from the school register for whatever reason

The contact person in relation to the Code of Behaviour is Pádraig Ó Conchubhair (School Principal).

Signature (Chairperson of the Board of Management):



Date:

