

St Ailbe's N.S. Emly

Code of Discipline

Aims:

- In devising the code, consideration has to be given to the particular needs and circumstances of this school. The aim is to create an ordered and orderly environment in which pupils can, through developing self-discipline, feel secure and make progress in all aspects of their development
- Every effort will be made by all members of staff to adopt a positive approach to the question of behaviour in the school

Principles:

- The school recognises the variety of differences that exist between children and the need to tolerate these differences.
- 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 between staff , parents and pupils.
- Every effort will be made to ensure that the code of discipline is implemented in a reasonable ,fair and consistent manner.
- **Class room rules are drawn up and agreed upon at the start of each school year. They are taught and explained to each class by their class teacher. Children are made aware of consequences of rules not being adhered to.**

Code of Behaviour for St Ailbe's N.S. is attached.

This code of Behavior will be signed by each pupil , their parents/ guardians and teacher as soon as they enrol in St Ailbe's N.S.

[is a 'bully- free' zone

Clár ama na Scoile:

- Assembly: 9 10.m
- School begins: 9.20 a.m.
- School Closes: Junior Infants 2.00p.m.

Senior Infants 2.00p.m.

Other Classes 3 00 p.m.

Homework:

It is the policy of the school to assign homework on a regular basis. Parents are strongly advised to take an active interest in their child's homework and to sign their homework each night (ensuring that it is done).

Our Code of Discipline aims to promote and reward positive behaviour, in essence we endeavour to 'catch the pupils being good'

We also endeavour to build strong home /school links based on fair and clear expectations and open and honest dialogue. We encourage parents to contact staff as soon as possible if they have any concerns regarding their child's behaviour.

Strategies for encouraging and rewarding positive behaviour.

1. Praise may be given by means of any one of the following;

- A quiet word or gesture to show approval
- A comment in a pupil's exercise book
- A visit to another member of staff or to the Principal for commendation.
- A word of praise in front of a group or class
- A system of merit marks
- Delegating some special responsibility or privilege
- A mention to parent, written or verbal communication

2. Disapproval of unacceptable behaviour will be dealt with as follows;

(The nature of the behaviour will determine the strategy)

- Reasoning with pupils
- Reprimand (including advice on how to improve)
- Prescribing extra work
- Communication with Parents
- Temporary separation from peers and/or loss of privileges.
- Referral to Principal/Deputy-Principal
- Note or phone call to parents .
- Take note of
- Suspension/expulsion (in accordance with Rule 130 of the Rules for National Schools as amended by circular 7/88).

Procedures:

The degree of misdemeanours i.e. minor, serious or gross, will be judged by the teachers and/or Principal based on a common sense approach with regard to the gravity/frequency of such misdemeanours, as follows;

1. Examples of minor misdemeanours:

Interrupting class work/arriving late for school/running in the school building/talking in the class line/leaving assigned seat without permission at lunch time/not bringing a toilet bag/placing unfinished food/drink cartons in class bin/leaving litter around the school/not wearing the correct school uniform/being discourteous/unmannerly/not completing homework without good reason/not having homework completed /endangering self/fellow pupils in the school yard at break time.

1.1. Examples of steps to be taken by teachers when dealing with minor misdemeanours:

- Verbal reprimand/reasoning with the pupil
- Noting instance of yard misbehaviour in yard book
- Extra piece of homework.

1.2. Examples of steps to be taken when dealing with regular occurrences of minor misdemeanours

Phase 1 (within the classroom):

- Write story of what happened

- Note in homework journal to be signed by parent/temporary separation from peers
- Sending to another teacher/denial of participation in some class activity eg. Golden time.
- Warning to pupils whose name appears in yard book more than three times
- Note to parents concerning further misbehaviour in yard (Misbehaviour in yard consists of any action that puts the safety of self/other pupil at risk)

Phase 2:

- Send to the Principal
- Class teacher meets one/both parents
- Principal meets with one/both parents concerning yard behaviour

2. Examples of serious misdemeanours:

Constantly disruptive in class/telling lies/stealing/damaging other pupil's property
 Bullying/back answering a teacher/frequenting school premises after school hours without appropriate permission/leaving school premises during school day without appropriate permission/Not working to full potential/using unacceptable language/bringing weapons to school/deliberately injuring a fellow pupil

2.1 Examples of steps to be taken when dealing with serious misdemeanours;

- Send to the Principal
- Principal sends note to be signed by parent
- Principal meets with one/both parents
- Chairperson of Board Of Management is informed and parents requested to meet with the Chairperson and Principal

2.2 Examples of Gross Misdemeanours

Setting fire to school property/deliberately leaving taps/fire hose turned on/aggressive, threatening or violent behaviour towards a teacher/pupil

2.3 Examples of steps to be taken when dealing with gross misdemeanours;

- Chairperson/Principal to sanction immediate suspension pending discussion with parents
- Expulsion will be considered in an extreme case in accordance with Rule 130 (6) *"No pupil can be struck off the rolls for breaches of discipline without prior consent of patron and until alternative arrangements are made for enrolment of pupil at another suitable school in the locality".*

It should be noted that these lists consist of examples only: It is not meant to be a totally comprehensive list of misdemeanours and procedural steps.

This Policy was reviewed and ratified by