

St. Brendan's N.S. Discipline Policy

Statement of Ethos

The discipline policy of St. Brendan's recognizes the importance of developing the full potential of the child and it seeks to develop and promote a moral and ethical sense to enable the child to contribute positively to the community in which they live.

The aim is to ensure that each child's individuality is accommodated while acknowledging the right of each child to education in a relatively disruption – free environment.

Respect forms an integral part of any discipline policy and children are encouraged to show respect;

- ❖ For themselves
- ❖ For other children
- ❖ For teachers
- ❖ For parents
- ❖ For all other visitors to the school
- ❖ For property
- ❖ For the community in general

We would expect from the children that by the time they leave our school they would have developed a well-balanced attitude with a strong moral, ethical and respectful sense that would stand them in good stead throughout their future.

Code of Behaviour and Discipline

1. In devising the code, consideration has been given to the particular needs and circumstances of this school. The aim 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.
2. Every effort will be made by all members of staff to adopt a positive approach to the question of behaviour on our school. The code offers a framework within which techniques of motivation and encouragement are utilised by teachers.
3. A high level of co-operation among the Partners is essential for a strong sense of community within the school.
4. The school recognises the variety of differences that exist among children and the need to accommodate and respect these differences.
5. The school places greater emphasis on rewards than on sanctions in the belief that this will, in the long run, give the best results and help maintain a positive atmosphere.
6. The following strategies will be used to show approval for acceptable behaviour and disapproval for unacceptable behaviour:

❖ Reasoning with pupil

- ❖ Reprimand (including advice on how to improve)
- ❖ Affirmation of good behaviour (class of the week/month)
- ❖ Temporary separation from peers, friends or others
- ❖ Loss of privileges
- ❖ Referral to Principal
- ❖ Communication with Parents
- ❖ Referral to Board of Management and possible suspension (temporary) as a very last resort

Rules for Yard

1. Children should go to the toilet before they go to the yard.
2. Put on their coats if they think it's going to be cold.
3. Children should wait on corridor until the teacher on the yard lets them out.
4. Children must respect the trees, shrubs and fenced areas around the school-yard.
5. Children are not allowed up on the grass except at certain times of the year. These times will be announced.

- 6.** Nobody is allowed into the junior yard expect junior ,senior infants and first class.
(unless they are on Safety Squad)

- 7.** When on the yard children are not allowed back into the school unless you have permission from the teacher on the yard. Those who need the toilet will be accompanied to the allotted classroom by a member of the safety squad. Minor first aid issues will be dealt with in the yard.

- 8.** No fighting, mess fighting or rough play in allowed on the yard.

- 9.** At the end of the yard time the bell will be sounded twice. On the first bell the children freeze and on the second they walk calmly to their line , where they wait for their teacher to collect them

- 10.**When walking to their classroom the children must walk in a straight line, and adhere to the rules for movement within the school

- 11.**When the children are back in their classroom they must sit in their chair.

Behaviour in the Classroom

1. Children on entering the classroom must go to their place and sit down
2. They may not leave their place without permission from the teacher
3. In general , behaviour should always be respectful to the teacher, staff and between the children

Behaviour in the School

1. Children are expected to wear their school uniform at all times and their school tracksuit on the days they are having P.E
2. On entering the school the children should go straight to their classroom. Place their bag in their place and occupy themselves with the work provided or read a book until the start of formal teaching.
3. Running on the corridor is not allowed.
4. Good manners and a cheery disposition are always encouraged and expected, e.g. children should hold the door open and stand back to allow teachers, parents, visitors to pass through.

5. School should be kept tidy at all times.

6. No child may leave the school without permission at any time.

Possible Sanctions and Rewards

Rewards to encourage good behaviour;

1. Homework off
2. Praise
3. Prizes
4. Stickers
5. Stars
6. Stamps
7. Certificates
8. Special responsibilities
9. Treats

Sanctions to discourage unacceptable behaviour;

1. Reprimand
2. Referral to Principal
3. Black Book, the unacceptable behaviour to be noted in the black book and parents to be notified.
4. Conference between parents and Principal will take place at Stage 4
5. Referral to Board of Management
6. Anticipated use of suspension
7. Suspension (temporary)
8. Summery of Types of Misbehaviour

Minor

1. Inattentiveness
2. Talking when should be working
3. Lack of effort
4. Homework not signed
5. Failing to follow teacher's instructions

Serious

1. Stealing
2. Homework not done persistently
3. Verbal abuse of pupils

4. Physical abuse of children
5. Constant defiance
6. Rudeness / Bad language

Gross

1. Persistent Bullying behaviour
2. Vandalism
3. Verbal and physical abuse of teacher
4. Leaving school without permission.

General Rules for Pupils

1. Each pupil is expected to treat every person he meets in the school premises with courtesy and respect.
2. Each pupil is expected to be neatly dressed, punctual and to attend school regularly.
3. A high standard of loyalty and personal behaviour is expected from pupils at all times.
4. When moving through the school each pupil must do so quietly and in an orderly fashion.

5. If late or absent from school each pupil is expected to provide a written explanation from his or her parents.
6. No pupil is allowed to leave the school premises during school hours unless he/she has the permission of the Principal.
7. During playtime in the yard pupils are expected to avoid games that lead to unnecessary injuries.
8. A high standard of class work and homework is expected from all pupils in the school.