



# *St. Brendan's National School*

**Principal:**  
Mr. Niall Mulvey

**Deputy Principal:**  
Ms. Kathy Lundy

Telephone:  
(01) 8490394

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LOUGHSHINNY,  
SKERRIES, CO. DUBLIN

St Brendan's N.S. Loughshinny

# Discipline Policy



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## **St. Brendan's N.S. Discipline Policy**

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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 the children here are encouraged to show respect -

- For themselves
- For other children
- For teachers
- For parents
- For all other visitors to the school
- For all 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.



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## **Code of Behavior and Discipline**

In devising the code, we take consideration to the particular needs and circumstances of this school. The aim is to ensure that we accommodate the individuality of each child, while acknowledging the right of each child to education in a relatively disruption-free environment.

1. All members of staff will make every effort to adopt a positive approach to the question of behavior on our school. The code offers a framework within which teachers utilize techniques of motivation and encouragement.
2. A high level of co-operation among the parents is essential for a strong sense of community within the school.
3. The school recognizes the variety of differences that exist among children and the need to accommodate and respect these differences.
4. The school places greater emphasis on rewards than on sanctions in the belief that this will, in the end, give the best results and help maintain a positive atmosphere.
5. The following strategies will be used to show approval for acceptable behavior and disapproval for unacceptable behavior:
  - Reasoning with pupil
  - Reprimand (including advice on how to improve)
  - Affirmation of good behavior (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



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## **Rules for the Yard**

1. Children should ensure they go to the toilet before they go to the yard.
2. Children should put on their coats if they think it is going to be cold.
3. Children should wait on corridor until the teacher on yard duty lets them out.
4. Children must respect the trees, shrubs and fenced areas around the schoolyard.
5. Playing on the grass is only permitted at certain times of the year. The class teacher will inform the children of these times.
6. Only Junior Infants up to 2nd Class students are permitted to be on the junior yard. (Unless they are on the Safety Squad)
7. When on the yard children will need to ask permission from the teacher on yard duty to go into the school building and will be accompanied by a member of the Safety Squad.
8. The teacher on duty will treat any minor first aid issues on yard.
9. There is no fighting, mess fighting or rough play permitted on the yard.
10. At the end of the yard, the teacher on duty will sound the bell 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.
11. When walking to their classroom the children must walk in a straight line and adhere to the rules for movement within the school.
12. When the children are back in their classroom, they must sit in their chair.



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## **Behaviour in the Classroom/School**

1. On entering the classroom, children must go to their place and sit down.
2. Children must not leave their place without permission from the teacher.
3. We expect all children to show respect to their peers and to all staff within the school.
4. We expect all children to wear their school uniform at all times and their school tracksuit on the days they are having P.E.
5. On entering the school, the children should go straight to their classroom. Place their bag at their table and occupy themselves with the work provided or read a book until the start of formal teaching.
6. Children should only walk the corridors.
7. 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.
8. Children should ensure to keep the school neat and tidy at all times.
9. Children will not be permitted to leave the school premises without permission at any time.



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## **Possible Sanctions and Rewards**

### **Rewards to encourage good behavior include:**

- No homework that day
- Prizes
- Stickers
- Stars/culminating in Class of the Week
- Stamps
- Certificates
- Special responsibilities within the class/school

### **Sanctions to discourage unacceptable behavior include:**

- Being reprimanded
- Referral to the Principal
- The Black Book - unacceptable behavior will be noted in the black book and parents will be notified.
- A conference between and Principal will take place
- Referral to Board of Management
- Anticipated use of suspension
- Suspension (temporary)



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## **Types of Misbehaviour**

**Minor:**

- Failing to follow teacher instruction
- Lack of effort
- Disruption in class
- Talking during class time
- Lying
- Homework not being completed
- Lack of punctuality

**Serious:**

- Constant defiance
- Rudeness
- Bad language
- Theft
- Verbal abuse of pupils/staff
- Constant disruption in classroom

**Gross:**

- Persistent bullying behaviour
- Vandalism
- Physical abuse of pupils/staff
- Leaving the school premises without permission



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## **General Rules for Pupils**

1. Children are expected to treat every person they meet on the school premises with courtesy and respect (as per our "I love good manners initiative")
2. We expect each pupil to be neatly dressed, punctual and to attend school regularly.
3. We expect a high standard of loyalty and personal behavior 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 permitted to leave the school premises during school hours unless he/she has the permission of the Principal.
7. During playtime in the yard, we expect pupils to avoid games that lead to unnecessary injuries.
8. We expect a high standard of class work and homework from all pupils in the school.

The Board of Management adopted this policy on \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

(Chairperson of the Board of Management)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

(Principal)