



*"To enhance each talent.
To meet each need".*

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR & DISCIPLINE POLICY

To fulfil our mission statement, we in St Colman's seek to provide a positive learning environment, which allows the whole school community to grow, and which produces well-rounded, confident children with inquiring minds.

Good behaviour and discipline are key foundations of good education. Without an orderly atmosphere, effective teaching and learning cannot take place. If all children are to have their chance to learn there must be rules which allow this to happen.

In order to create an orderly, harmonious atmosphere where everyone feels able to develop their full potential and where each person's individuality is valued and respected as God given, we have put in place a set of positively phrased rules which reflect respect for oneself, for children and adults, for the community and property, and for the environment. These are known as "The Golden Rules" and reflect the Christian message of "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you".

These Golden Rules are the umbrella under which our School Rules exist. They encourage positive rewards for good or improved behaviour rather than punishment for negative actions.

Our School Rules are also positively phrased and detail our expectations of how the children will behave in all areas of the school and at all times of the day. Both the Golden Rules and the School Rules are displayed as constant reminders of the standard of behaviour we expect.

When behaviour is deemed less than satisfactory, teachers will follow procedures mentioned later in this document.

We as a staff primarily take the positive approach by choosing to highlight instances of good behaviour. We believe that we build the children's self esteem by rewarding and praising them when they make good choices and set in motion the desire to build on their successes so that they develop the habit of doing their best and of treating others with kindness and respect.

We have established the routine of weekly assembly which is used to help the children reflect on how to treat others well, how to do their best with their work and how to help the school be a happy place for all by observing the Golden and School Rules (See appendix 1). One set of school rules is

highlighted each week and the children are asked to be especially conscious of those rules during the following week.

Public recognition and reinforcement is built in to our system by the presentation at assembly of *Golden Certificates*, a place at the *Golden Table* and a small gift, also group photographs placed on the *Golden Wall*. This involves both teaching and ancillary staff and presents a unified approach.

Praise

Praise can be given in many ways, e.g-

A quiet word;

An encouraging smile;

A written comment on a child's work;

A visit to another teacher or the Principal for commendation;

A public word of praise in front of the group or class;

Rewarding good effort or neat work with stickers etc.

We have introduced a Pupil of The Week Award Scheme in each class.

This promotes good work and good behaviour.

Our extensive reward system includes:-

In-class awards for behaviour, effort and achievement

Weekly assembly certificates

End of term awards

End of year awards

We believe our extensive Reward Scheme helps motivate the children to behave to a high standard and embeds in our school a culture of high expectations and achievement in the area of pupil conduct.

REWARDS

Children may be rewarded in a range of ways:-

- verbally,
- by class teacher,
- by other teachers,
- by principal,
- by non-teaching staff,
- at assembly.

Prizes, stickers, star charts, etc. to reward effort and good behaviour.

Public praise at school events.

Informal interaction with parents to acknowledge good behaviour.

Written comments in books.

Sent to other colleagues for commendation.

Sent to Principal for commendation.

Pupil is rewarded with extra responsibility.

Highlight achievements.

ROLE OF PARENTS

Clearly parents have a duty to ensure that their child does not cause harm injury or damage to others or to any property or the environment.

- * Parents are therefore asked to promote and support the general policy and rules of discipline.
- * In particular, the co-operation of parents is sought in relation to:-

Maintaining good attendance;

Punctuality;

Wearing school uniform;

Caring for school books, equipment, etc.

Good behaviour on the bus;

Completing set homework.

- * It is worth noting that:-

Every child has a right to receive the Northern Ireland Curriculum;

No child shall be allowed to interfere with or disrupt the education of other children by his / her unruly or anti-social behaviour.

The Board of Governors have formally adopted and will enforce the 'Scheme for the Suspension and Expulsion of Pupils from School' (as recommended by The Council for Catholic Maintained Schools, CCMS), in extreme cases, e.g., persistent bullying, and anti-social behaviour.

DEALING WITH LESS THAN SATISFACTORY BEHAVIOUR

- * Even the best behaved children sometimes misbehave.
- * Thus, sanctions are necessary to make children aware of unacceptable behaviour.
- * Our sanctions will, where possible, be:-
 - Constructive;
 - Applied fairly and firmly;
 - Applied with sensitivity and flexibility eg age appropriate;
 - Specific to the offending child and not applied to the whole group.
- * **Sanctions may include:-**
 - A verbal reprimand;
 - Asking a child to apologise;
 - Loss of privileges
 - Writing class rules a set number of times
 - Writing an explanation of why the behaviour was inappropriate
 - Extra Homework
 - Child may be asked to take 'Time Out ' for 5 minutes in a supervised environment
 - Misbehaviour recorded in Class Behaviour Book.;
 - Referral to other teacher, e.g. Vice-Principal or Principal;
 - Misbehaviour recorded in Principal's Behaviour Book;
 - Parental consultation;
 - Detention;
 - Suspension
 - Expulsion

The above may/may not be followed in this order. Action taken will depend on the severity of the misdemeanour and teacher discretion.

- * **ANY FORM OF BULLYING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED IN ST COLMAN'S PS.**

Bullying will be dealt with immediately. Action taken will depend on teacher discretion and the severity of the bullying incident. E.g. persistent bullying may be recorded in the Teacher's Behaviour Book, referred to the Vice-Principal or Principal, Recorded in the Principal's Behaviour Book, Parental consultation, etc.

Conclusion

- * Responsibility for the behaviour of all our children in St Colman's Primary School is one which all teachers share.
- * We are very proud of the fact that visitors to the school often comment on the good behaviour and politeness of our children.
- * In conclusion, we would ask you, the parents, to work as closely as possible with the Principal, teachers and ancillary staff in promoting good behaviour at all times.

This Policy has been reviewed, amended and updated with the Staff on

Principal_____

Chairperson of the Board of Governors_____

Appendix 1

GOLDEN RULES

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| 1. We are gentle | We don't hurt others |
| 2. We are kind and helpful | We don't hurt anybody's feelings |
| 3. We listen carefully | We don't interrupt |
| 4. We are always honest | We don't cover up the truth |
| 5. We work hard | We don't waste our own or other's time |
| 6. We play co-operatively | We don't spoil people's fun |
| 7. We look after property | We don't waste or damage things |

READY FOR SCHOOL RULES

1. We come to school on time 9.00 a.m.
2. We wear our School Uniform.
3. We bring our books, pencils and equipment (e.g. PE gear etc).
4. We explain absences from school (e.g. phone or note).

RULES FOR SHOWING RESPECT

1. We care for ourselves.
2. We are kind to others.
3. We show good manners to others especially adults in our school.
4. We care for our school.

LEARNING RULES

1. We always try our best.
2. We work in silence.
3. We do all our homework and get it signed by an adult.
4. We keep our classroom tidy.

PLAYGROUND RULES

1. We play safely.
2. We stay and play on the tarmac.
3. We stop immediately when the bell rings and line up in silence.
4. We talk to the adults on duty if we need help.

LISTENING RULES

1. We stop, look and listen when the teacher talks to us.
2. We put up our hand if we want to speak or give an answer.
3. We listen attentively to each other.

DINING HALL RULES

1. We stay in our seats.
2. We put up our hand if we need help.
3. We only talk to people close to us (i.e. at our table).
4. We always show good table manners.

OUR MOVEMENT RULES

1. We always walk on the left, inside the school building.
2. We always walk quietly in a line.
3. We always give way to adults.