

*Gaelscoil Bhrian Bóroimhe,
Coill na nÚll,
Sord,
Co. Átha Cliath*



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CODE OF BEHAVIOUR 2011

Introduction:

It is our intention to foster a safe educational environment from which the children can benefit to achieve their potential. The Code of Behaviour document has been devised in order to preserve an environment conducive to learning. These guidelines clarify the standards of acceptable behaviour and outline the procedure when standards are not adhered to. The school will always emphasise and encourage good behaviour. With the co-operation and support of the parents we anticipate a very high standard of behaviour from the pupils.

- It is the responsibility of the home and school to educate the child, to foster self confidence and respect for him/herself, the other children and those who work in the school.
- It is the responsibility of the parent(s)/guardian and school to ensure that the child understands the standard of behaviour required by the school.

Standards of Behaviour

- Children are expected to show respect for themselves and others.
- Pupils should be allowed to participate without undue interference.
- Children are expected to participate fully in all classroom activities (unless there is a specific reason notified to the school in writing by the parent).
- Gaelscoil Bhrian Bóroimhe promotes the following Golden Rules
 - Take care of possessions
 - Work hard
 - Be kind
 - Use Irish
 - Listen to people
 - Be honest
 - Be gentle

- Be mannerly

The following behaviour will not be tolerated in the school or in school related activities:

- bullying other children
- throwing objects at others
- hitting others
- fighting, rough play
- spitting
- foul language
- name-calling
- interfering with another's property
- using insulting labels or references to other people
- 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.
- Children will be helped to deal with the emotions which caused the inappropriate behaviour.
- Improvements in behaviour will be acknowledged and due praise given.

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

The Behaviour Book

Every teacher has a behaviour book (a note book) and they keep 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 the behaviour book to the office.

Golden Time*(This rewards children who display good behaviour)*

In every class there is a system of behaviour management. The children receive points for good behaviour and they lose points for inappropriate behaviour. If they lose points they lose time from Golden time. (In infant classes a more age-appropriate system is used.) Golden time is a special time during the week when the children have the chance to partake in activities they like such as playing games, painting, watching DVDs 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 in the behaviour book.

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 and the 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 and the Chairperson to discuss the situation.

- 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 the NEWB 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

Each teacher needs to send the name of any child who is absent for twenty days to the office. A form is sent around to each teacher to collect these names before the reporting dates as well.

The contact person in relation to the Code of Behaviour is Séamus Seaghach (School Principal).