

Knockloughrim Primary School

Positive Behaviour Policy



Reviewed: June 2014
Renewal date: June 2016



Positive Behaviour Policy

Rational

Personal and social development is of crucial importance to the development of any learner, and the objective is to encourage independence, responsibility, caring, sharing and respect. Knockloughrim Primary School will endeavour to instil good citizenship, acknowledging and rewarding children's progress in this important area of personal development.

This document sets in place the principles, practices and procedures that the school has set in place in order to ensure a safe and orderly environment for all the members of our learning community. It should be considered in conjunction with our Anti Bullying, Pastoral Care and Child Protection Policies. Effective teaching and learning is dependent on positive relationships established at school and classroom level between staff and pupil and between pupils themselves. The foundation of this positive policy within school is the foundation for better learning.

Positive behaviour is achieved in two ways:

1. Prevention – Preventative strategies that encourage each pupil to develop a sense of personality and self-discipline.
2. Management – When negative behaviour occurs, we need to be able to respond positively and effectively.

We try to do both by employing positive behaviour strategies through a number of initiatives and school policies and using effective interventions when negative behaviour arises.

Collective responsibilities:

Governors:

Our governors oversee the management of our school and are part of the process of development and implementation of policies and procedures. They also ensure that statutory policies and procedures in regard to behaviour management are followed as determined by the Department of Education.

Staff: The school staff, both teaching and non-teaching, share a collective responsibility for consistently implementing school policy on positive behaviour. This is monitored and led by the Principal and will be subject to review on a bi-annual basis.

Parents: Parents have a responsibility for ensuring that they support their children by meeting school expectations in respect of positive behaviour.

Pupils: Our pupils are expected to be responsible for their own positive behaviour and to meet the expectations set out by the school.

Policy Aims

To nurture a whole school ethos, within which each person can feel valued.

To encourage and develop children's acceptance of and respect for those charged with the duty of care.

To encourage and develop mutual trust within the population of the whole school.

To encourage and develop children's respect for one another and for each other's work, developing co-operative skills through working together.

To encourage children to appreciate the views of others.

To encourage self-discipline and control, giving children an opportunity to develop responsibility for their own actions.

To encourage and develop children's respect for, and independent use of the equipment and materials of the school.

To help children realise the importance of resolving differences and conflict through the use of non-violent means and reacting appropriately to a range of personal and social situations.

Positive Behaviour Management Strategies

In our school, we are aware of the value of adopting a praise and reward policy with Good Citizenship being recognised.

Our school has begun the journey in achieving The Rights Respecting Schools Award. This award recognises achievement in putting the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) at the heart of our school's planning, policies, practice and ethos. A rights-respecting school not only teaches about children's rights but also models rights and respect in all its relationships: between teachers / adults and pupils, between adults and between pupils.

Staff will endeavour to administer shared and consistent approaches to the ways in which they respond to children's behaviour.

At every stage, they will create opportunities for children to be explicit about problems, and will encourage them to contribute to the solution. They will make time in and out of the classroom for discussion with and between the children, with a focus on social interaction and developing relationships, e.g. through Circle Time.



All teachers will implement Golden Time as a means to promote positive behaviour.

The school will give children an opportunity for input into formulating policy through our Pupil School Council.

Expected Standards

Our pupils are expected to become self-disciplined and observe a positive code of conduct which protects the safety and well-being of themselves and others in a variety of situations, e.g.

- arriving at/ departing from school in an orderly fashion
- arriving punctually at school
- walking in the corridors.
- observing proper standards of hygiene in toilet areas
- working to the best of their ability in class and observing any relevant classroom rules
- making sure that work (school or homework) is presented in a tidy, legible manner at all times
- obeying any special instructions on aspects of safety related to the practical subjects such as P.E., science or outdoor pursuits
- maintaining the social graces, including proper table manners in the dining hall, saying "thank you" and "please"
- giving a courteous reception to visitors
- keeping the school and grounds free from litter
- playing fairly at playtime with due consideration for the interests and safety of themselves and others within the permitted play areas
- avoiding all situations which might be termed bullying in various forms (gesture, language, physical, extortion or exclusion)
- being properly dressed in coat etc. before leaving the building at the end of the day
- being good ambassadors for the school on outings or visits to other places.

THE ROLE OF PARENTS

In Knockloughrim, we recognise the importance of working in partnership with our parents to achieve best outcomes for our pupils. In endeavouring to accomplish this, our parents will:

- Receive information on what the school policy is on behaviour and how it is to be carried out on a day to day basis
- Receive regular information on their child's progress and behaviour
- Know that their child is receiving a broad and balanced curriculum
- Be listened to and have their beliefs respected
- Know that the school is a safe and caring environment for their child
- Receive information in our school's 'Pastoral Care' summary leaflet of how to report any concern or complaint they may have in relation to their child's safety or well-being.
- Inform school staff of any concerns regarding their children or other parents children and allow the school to follow appropriate protocol. Parents should not address issues or intervene with other parents' children themselves.

We ask that our Parents recognise the importance of compliance with the school rules and support the school regarding the behaviour expectations of our pupils.

Enrolment in school implies acceptance of the school's Behaviour policy.

Attendance and absence

It is important that the children attend regularly throughout the term. Parents are advised to avoid term time holidays where possible. It is extremely difficult, if not impossible, for children to make up work that they have missed when they return to school.

It is school policy not to provide work for holidays during term time.

In order to complete attendance records correctly, notes explaining pupil absences must be brought to school promptly.

Uniform

Parents are asked to support the school in ensuring that pupils are sent to school in uniform. Uniform creates a sense of belonging and identity within the school. It also reinforces the school's Positive Behaviour Policy – putting on the uniform reflects a sense of putting on the school code of conduct, with a willingness to follow the school rules. From a child safety aspect, uniform allows us to identify and monitor our children quickly and effectively while on outings and field trips.

Reasonable force / safe handling

Knockloughrim Primary School follows the Regional Policy Framework on the use of Reasonable Force /Safe Handling. Our school is committed to ensuring that all staff and adults with responsibility for children's safety and welfare will deal professionally with all incidents involving aggressive or reckless behaviour, and only use physical intervention as a last resort in line with NEELB advice. If used at all, it will be in the context of a respectful, supportive relationship with the child.

Positive Behaviour Incentive schemes

The best and most successful approach to creating a positive ethos is to treat children positively, by praising them, offering them encouragement and acknowledging their achievements.

Rewards should:

- Be given as soon as possible
- Be small but tangible
- Never be taken back

House points

We believe that pupils thrive when they receive praise for their effort, success in their studies, sport, music and other extra-curricular involvement in the life of the school.

We encourage a community feel by allocating each child to a shared House that includes children from all year groups and is led by a teacher who acts as a House Master or Mistress. We celebrate pupil achievements by awarding House Points for academic and not academic purposes.

These achievements will be recorded by staff on the C2K Sims Behaviour/Achievements Management Software and House Points are displayed in our main school noticeboards. The House Point Shield is awarded to the House with the greatest number of points at the end of each School Year.

Additionally:

Every week assemblies include time dedicated to celebrating a wide range of pupil achievements including the House Point scores.

Within school, we have a large TV screen in our foyer and it is used to 'broadcast' immediate praise for pupils who have excelled, contributed to school life, or helped in notable ways.

Positive Behaviour Incentive scheme – “Golden Time”

Aims-

- To recognise and reward good citizenship.
- To encourage children to take responsibility for their own behaviour and accept consequences when rules are broken.
- To acknowledge consistent application to work.

A 30-minute session each week is given to the children, in which they take part in an activity/ activities of their choice e.g. bringing in an inexpensive toy or game from home.

Each class agree on a set of positive Golden Rules:

1. be gentle
2. be kind and helpful
3. be honest
4. to work hard
5. to look after property
6. to listen to people



Levels of Intervention

In responding to unacceptable behaviour in our school, we have agreed a range of interventions which will assist in helping pupils to recognise and reflect on their behaviour, its impact on others, and will help them to change and get back on track.

We will also listen to and support and strengthen any pupil affected by this behaviour.

In each of the four levels, we have included a list of suggested strategies that can be used to respond to behavioural incidents. This list is not exhaustive but seeks to provide best practice guidance on how to achieve the required change in behaviour and to restore the well-being of all those involved and affected by this behaviour.

Monitoring and Evaluating

Monitoring and evaluating are integral parts of school life and are the responsibility of all members of staff. The principal and Board of Governors will oversee the progress we are making towards fulfilling our aims. The policy will be reviewed every 2 years and following any incident requiring a Level 3 response or above, to assess its suitability in responding and that it is "fit for purpose".

We will collect data and maintain/review records, both written and by C2K Sims Behaviour Management Module to monitor and evaluate effectiveness of the policy and intervention strategies.