

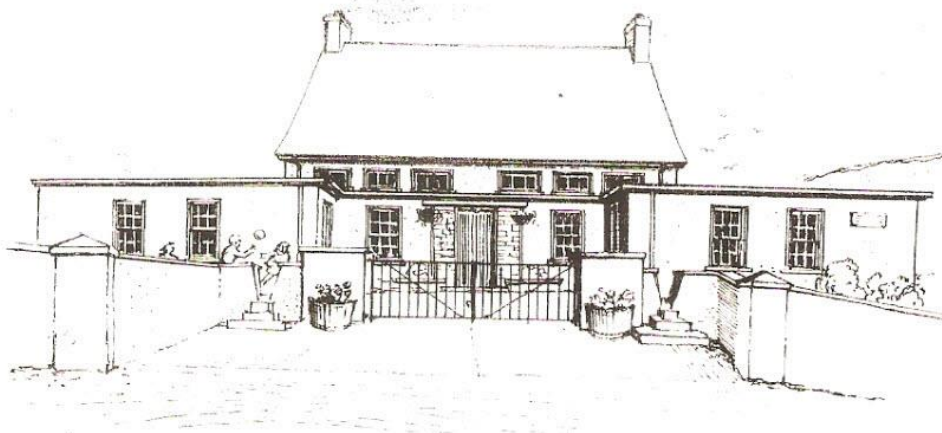
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Gurraneasig N.S.

Kilbrittain,

Co. Cork

P72 YP78

Code of Behaviour Policy

Whole School Plan

CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

- ***Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí***

VISION

Our vision, as a staff and Board of Management of Gurraneasig N.S., is to provide a school where all children, whatever their ability, race, or creed are cherished equally for their uniqueness.

AIMS

The aims of the Code of Behaviour of Gurraneasig N.S. are:

- To provide a happy, secure environment for all our pupils.
- To develop pupils' self-esteem and to promote positive behaviour.
- To foster the development of a sense of responsibility and self-discipline in pupils based on respect, consideration and tolerance of others.
- To facilitate the education and development of every child.
- To foster caring attitudes to one another and to the environment.
- That there is a sense of good order, effective teaching and an agreed approach to behaviour.

The emphasis in Gurraneasig N.S. is, and always has been, to promote positivity. Our school has always promoted a welcoming atmosphere towards parents which encourages them to become involved in aspects of school activities. This leads to a high level of co-operation among teachers, ancillary staff, pupils, parents, Board of Management and the Parents' Association.

IMPLEMENTATION

In maintaining a happy, secure environment, in which children can develop to their full potential, it is necessary to provide a framework, which promotes constructive behaviour and discourages unacceptable behaviour.

Every member of the school community has a role to play in the implementation of the Code of Behaviour. Rules will emphasise positive behaviour and will be applied in a fair and consistent manner, with due regard to the age of the pupils and to individual difference. Good behaviour will be encouraged and rewarded. Where difficulties arise, parents will be contacted at an early stage.

Good behaviour is praised and rewarded.

Unacceptable behaviour will not be tolerated.

SCHOOL RULES

School rules are kept to a minimum and are devised with regard for the health, safety and welfare of all members of the school community. If a school is to function efficiently, it is necessary that rules and regulations are clearly stated and enforced consistently and fairly.

GENERAL SCHOOL RULES

- All pupils will assemble at 9.30 a.m. in full school uniform.
- Classes are dismissed at 2.10 p.m. for Junior and Senior Infants and at 3.10.p.m. for all other classes. Children should be collected at these times.
- The Board of Management and the school staff are **not** responsible for persons/children on the school premises outside of school official hours.
- Children are to enter and exit school in an orderly fashion.
- Pupils who cycle to school will alight from his/her bike at the school gate and place it in the bicycle rack provided.
- When a pupil is absent, a notification (email or written note) is to be furnished to the school on the following day from a parent/guardian. An email or written note should also be furnished if a pupil needs to leave school before official home time.

N.B. Education Act 2000

In order to comply with the requirements of the above Act the Principal is obliged to refer the names of all the children who are absent for 20 school days accumulatively per school year to the National Education Welfare Board. Any incidence of child abuse is also notifiable under the Act. Gurraneasig NS will notify parents/guardians in writing when their child has reached 15 days

- cumulative absence since the start of the school year.
- Pupils will obey teachers and school staff at all times and treat them with respect and courtesy.
 - Pupils will not leave the school premises without the Principal's permission.
 - Homework, which is an extension of schoolwork, is to be done thoroughly and neatly.
 - Pupils will have an acceptable standard of hygiene.
 - Mobile phones are not allowed in school. If a child needs to make urgent contact with their home, this will be facilitated by a member of staff.
 - Pupils are expected to show respect for all school property and to keep the school environment clean and litter free.
 - Pupils are expected to treat all adults and fellow pupils with respect and courtesy at all times. Behaviour that interferes with the rights of others to learn and to feel safe is unacceptable.
 - Parents/Guardians who wish to meet the Principal or teachers should request in writing or email to make a prior appointment with at least 24 hours' notice. This is to ensure one to one communication and that class time for children is not interrupted.
 - Chewing gum **is not** allowed.
 - Bullying or being a party to bullying will **NOT** be tolerated under any circumstances.

Bullying

Bullying is repeated verbal, psychological or physical aggression by an individual or group against others. The most common forms of bullying are aggressive physical contact, name-calling, intimidation, extortion, isolation and taunting. Bullying will not be tolerated and parents will be expected to cooperate with the school at all times in dealing with instances of bullying in accordance with the school's Anti-Bullying Policy.

Affirming Positive Behaviour

Positive reinforcement of good behaviour leads to better self-discipline and we place a greater emphasis on rewards and incentives than on sanctions.

Strategies/Incentives

- A quiet word or gesture to show approval or praise.
- A comment on a child's exercise book.
- A visit to another class or Principal for commendation.
- Praise in front of class group.

- Delegating some special responsibility or privilege.
- Written or verbal communication with parent.
- Stamps and Stickers

Discouraging Misbehaviour

The purpose of sanctions and other strategies is to discourage misbehaviour. Sanctions will be applied according to the gravity of the misbehaviour, with due regard to age and emotional development. These may include:

- Reasoning with pupil.
- Verbal reprimand including advice on how to improve.
- Temporary separation from peers within class and/or temporary removal to another class.
- Prescribing extra work.
- Loss of privileges.
- Detention during break time.
- Communication with parents.
- Referral to Principal.
- Principal communicating with parents.
- Exclusion (Suspension or Expulsion) from school (in accordance with Rule 130 of the Rules for National Schools as amended by circular and Education Welfare Act 2000).

Pupils will not be deprived of engagement in a Curricular Area, except on the grounds of health/safety

Suspension/Expulsion

Before serious sanctions such as suspension or expulsion are used, the normal channels of communication between school and parents will be utilised. Communication with parents may be verbal or by letter depending on the circumstances.

In accordance with NEWB Guidance on suspensions, the Principal has the power to suspend a pupil for 1, 2 or 3 days. The Principal will notify the Chairperson of the Board of Management of such eventualities.

Expulsion may be considered in an extreme case, in accordance with the Rule for National Schools and the Education Welfare Act 2000. The Local Education Welfare Officer(TUSLA) will be informed in writing when a pupil accumulates 6 days suspension.

Before expelling a pupil, the Board shall notify the Local Education Welfare Officer (Tusla) in writing in accordance with Section 24 of the Education Welfare Act.

Board of Management's Responsibilities

- Provide a comfortable, safe environment.
- Support the Principal and staff in implementing the code.
- Ratify the code.

Principal's Responsibilities

- Promote a positive climate in the school.
- Ensure that the Code of Behaviour is implemented in a fair and consistent manner.
- Arrange for review of the Code, as required.

Teachers' Responsibilities

Support and implement the school's code of behaviour.

- Create a safe working environment for each pupil.
- Recognise and affirm good work.
- Prepare school work and correct work done by pupils.
- Recognise and provide for individual talents and differences among pupils.
- Be courteous, consistent and fair.
- Keep opportunities for disruptive behaviour to a minimum.
- Deal appropriately with misbehaviour.
- Keep a written record of instances of serious misbehaviour or repeated instances of misbehaviour.
- Provide support for colleagues.
- Communicate with Principal and parents when necessary and provide reports on matters of mutual concern.

Pupils' Responsibilities

- Attend school regularly and punctually.
- Listen to their teachers and act on instructions/advice.
- Show respect for all members of the school community.
- Walk while in the school building.
- Respect all school property.
- Respect the property of other pupils.
- Avoid behaving in any way which would endanger others.
- Avoid all nasty remarks, swearing and name-calling.
- Include other pupils in games and activities.
- Bring correct materials/books to school.
- Follow school and class rules.
- Complete class and homework as assigned by teacher.

Parents/Guardians' Responsibilities

- Ensure that your child(ren) attend school regularly and punctually.
- Provide written or email documentation for absences from / late attendances to school.
- Ensure your child(ren) are collected promptly at home time.
- The Board of Management and the school staff are **not** responsible for persons/children on the school premises outside of school official hours.
- Be familiar with the Code of Behaviour and support its implementation.
- Communicate promptly with the school in relation to any problems/issues in or outside of school which may impact on your affect child's progress/behaviour at school.
- Co-operate with and support the teacher/school as much as possible to ensure your child behaves in accordance with school's expectations.
- Co-operate with teachers in instances where your child's behaviour is causing difficulties for others.
- Contact the class teacher firstly and open a dialogue if you have a concern regarding your child and something that happened at school.
- Make an appointment to meet with teachers/principal via the school office.
- Support and encourage your child's school work.
- Encourage children to have a sense of respect for themselves and for school property.
- Be courteous with other pupils and staff.
- Parents are requested not to approach or reprimand another person's child on the school premises.
- Equip your children with appropriate school materials, a sufficient healthy lunch and full uniform.
- Label pupils' clothes and other personal property
- Respect the classrooms and staffroom as workplaces and seek permission from the teacher before entering.
- Strictly supervise pre-school children when they are in the school.
- Drive carefully and slowly on the approach roads to school

Classroom Rules

- Listen to the teacher and do what teacher says.
- Listen to others when they are speaking and they in turn will listen to you.
- Work to the best of ability and present exercises neatly.
- Stay seated in their places unless told otherwise. This is particularly important when teacher is called from the room.
- Don't interfere with other pupils or their property.
- Help to keep the classroom tidy
- Use the toilet properly and wash hands afterwards.
- Be kind and helpful and not hurt other people's feelings.

Corridor Rules

- Do not run. Walk quietly and briskly if you need to hurry.
- Open the door for a teacher or a visitor.

Yard Rules

- Play safely at all times. Anti-social, dangerous or hurtful behaviour is forbidden, (e.g. wrestling, bullying, teasing, jeering, fighting, spitting, kicking, bad language, exclusion etc.).
- Let others join in the game if they ask. (If you see someone all alone, invite him/her to join along in your game)
- If someone gets hurt or has a problem, go to the teacher who is on yard duty, not to the Staff Room.
- Walk to and from the yard.
- Stand sideways to let a teacher or adult pass.
- Do not go back into school during lunch time unless you get permission from the teacher on yard duty.
- Stay visible to an adult on duty at all times.
- When you hear the bell, stop playing, tidy away equipment after you and walk to your class line.
- Wait quietly in your line for your teacher to come.
- **At going home time - Pupils should walk to school gate and remain standing there until parents/guardians come to collect.**

This policy on Code of Behaviour was formulated by the staff of Gurraneasig N.S. following consultation with the Parents Association and the Board of Management. The DES Guidelines Towards a Positive Policy for School Behaviour and Discipline and A Suggested Code of Behaviour and Discipline for National Schools were followed in the compilation of this policy.

The Board of Management sanctioned the policy.

Ratified by Board of Management on 13 February 2018

Signed _____
Chairperson, Board of Management

For review on: May 2019

Parental Consent:

I, _____, Parent of _____

agree to support the school in the implementation of this Policy to ensure the safety and privacy of all Pupils and Teachers in the school.

Signed:

Date: