



Positive Behaviour Policy

Mission Statement

It is a legal requirement that every school has a Positive Behaviour Policy. The Derrychrin Primary School Positive Behaviour Policy has been agreed by staff and the Board of Governors and issued to all parents when their child/children enrol at the school.

We value and respect all our pupils equally. We wish through this policy to uphold everyone's right to be safe both physically and emotionally - this requires everyone to behave in ways which keep everyone else safe.

We recognise that each child is unique, and gifted differently. Derrychrin Primary School exists to serve the Ballinderry community through the provision of a caring and effective Catholic education which will enable pupils to make the most of their potential for academic, religious and human development.

We believe that each pupil can be helped and supported to learn more, fulfilling their potential provided each plays his/her part. We expect our pupils to work hard, to follow the school Golden Rules and School Values to co-operate fully with all staff. We expect our pupils to share responsibility within the school and to participate in its life and work, using and developing all their talents. We make it very clear to our pupils from the moment they join our school until they leave that we will not tolerate bullying in any shape or form and that there will be sanctions for those who display bullying behaviours.

In Derrychrin PS, we seek to develop an ethos of mutual respect for all, by all members of the school community. Central to this aspiration is the recognition of the worth and value of each child - we aim to create a calm and caring community where teachers teach, and children learn.

Rationale

We in Derrychrin Primary School believe that children who have positive attitudes to school, who have high expectations of themselves and who have a strong sense of their own self-worth are most likely to fulfil their potential and experience all the opportunities our school offers.

Good working relationships between staff, pupils and parents are the key to effective teaching, learning and discipline.

Each member of staff aspires to have knowledge of the needs, aspirations, interests, and academic progress of each pupil.

When teachers are consistent, set clear limits, pupils will comply with rules and routines.

In preparing our approach to positive behaviour we acknowledge the rights and responsibilities of all members of the school community.

This policy is shared with all staff, Governors, pupils and parents.

Legislation and Guidance

The school Positive Behaviour Policy will be informed by:

a) Current Legislation

- Health and Safety At Work NI Order (1978)
- The Children (NI) Order (1995)
- The Human Rights Act (1998)
- The Education (NI) Order (1998)
- Welfare and Protection Of Pupil's Education and Libraries (NI) Order (2003)
- The Education (2006 Order) (Commencement No. 2) Order (NI) (2007)
- The Education (School Development Plans) Regulations (NI) (2010)
- Special Educational Needs and Disability Act (NI) 2016
- Addressing Bullying In Schools Act (NI) (2016)

b) DE Guidance

- Pastoral Care In Schools: Promoting Positive Behaviour (2001)
- Safeguarding and Child Protection In Schools - A Guide For Schools (2017)

Promotion Of Positive Behaviour

Derrychrin Primary School Positive Behaviour Policy aims to create a climate which will:

- Promote learning for all pupils.
- Ensure that teachers are enabled to teach effectively.
- Enhance pupils' self-esteem.
- Foster self-respect and respect for others.
- Encourage pupils' independence by accepting the need for self-discipline, self-control and taking responsibility for their own behaviour.
- Develop pupils' interpersonal skills and their ability to work co-operatively with others to resolve problems and potential conflict.

Duties Of Board of Governors

(Every School A Good School - DE 2017)

The Board of Governors and responsibility to:

- Make and keep under review a written statement of general principles about pupil behaviour and discipline.
- Consult with the principal and parents before making its statement of general principles.
- Consider guidance from DE and EA.
- Safeguard and promote the welfare of all pupils.

Duties Of Principal / Vice-Principal /SMT

(Every School A Good School - DE 2017)

The Principal should:

- Determine measures which the school will take to
 - Promote self-discipline and respect for authority amongst pupils.
 - Encourage good behaviour and respect for others.
 - Secure an acceptable standard of behaviour amongst pupils.
- Act in accordance with the Board of Governors statement of general principles.
- Prepare a written statement of these measures and issue a copy to parents.

General Statement

In Derrychrin PS we provide a supportive environment which adapts to the needs of pupils of all abilities and backgrounds. We aim to organise the educational provision within the school, so that each child has the opportunity to develop physically, intellectually, socially and spiritually and so develop all talents to their full potential. We create a happy environment in which pupils can learn effectively and develop a sense of self-esteem and self-control.

Our positive behaviour policy is closely linked with and supportive of our general school policy which is based on Christian values and beliefs. We encourage parents to be active partners in the education of their children, we expect parents to accept the school's discipline policy. We shall implement our policy fairly and consistently. Should the need for pupil suspension/expulsion arise, we shall follow the procedures in place by CCMS/EANI.

Aims

- To foster a school ethos where effective learning and teaching can take place.
- To promote and maintain good relationships within the school between pupils, teachers, ancillary staff and parents.
- To promote and maintain a mutually supportive school community.
- To promote behaviour that conforms to the reasonable expectations and requirements of the school and is based upon mutual respect for the needs and aspirations of all in the school and upon care for its environment.
- To create and maintain a safe and ordered school environment where Christian principles and values are practised.
- To prevent bullying behaviour of any kind to any member of the school community, and by any member of the school community.
- To establish close links with external support services so that provision of appropriate support can be acquired if and when needed.
- To maintain close contact with Parents/Guardians and encourage their support for the policy.
- To develop in pupils a sense of self-discipline and an acceptance of responsibility for their own actions.

In summary:

- to promote the very best behaviour at all times.
- to create a safe, happy and secure school environment.

Our Golden Rules



Our School Values

To be devised in
2022-2023 School Year

GENERAL SCHOOL RULES

At all times the safety of pupils is paramount and is implicit in all the rules

- Walk quietly at all times inside the school building. (Motto 'Good Walking, No Talking')
- Keep the school clean and tidy.
- Put all litter in the correct bins.
- Wear your school uniform with pride.
- Be polite and show good manners at all times.
- Jewellery should not be worn in school (a watch or stud earrings will be permitted if allowed by parent)

CLASSROOM RULES

- Each teacher will consult with their class to add to the Golden Rules or devise a set of rules appropriate for their class.

PLAYGROUND RULES AND ROUTINES

- We will follow the playground timetable and only play in our designated areas.
- We will play safely and carefully at all times.
- We will be kind and helpful to each other.
- We will use the toilet before going to the playground.
- We will respond immediately to the bell and line up quietly
- We will put all litter in the bins.
- We will show respect to all supervisors.
- We will respect everyone's games.
- We will show respect for our playground, toys and equipment
- We always tell an adult if we feel worried or frightened or have an issue to be resolved

DINING HALL RULES / LUNCH TIME RULES

We want to be safe in the Dining Hall, so:

- We form an orderly line at the serving area.
- We sit safely on our seats and remain there until fully finished dinner or lunch.
- We always walk quietly and carefully.
- We handle all equipment safely.

We want to be happy and enjoy our food so:

- We are polite and show good manners to all staff.
- We talk quietly to those around us.
- We show good table manners.
- We eat our own food and let others enjoy their meal.
- We avoid sharing food with others.

When we finish our food:

- We tidy our table and return used plate and cutlery to appropriate area.
- We put all rubbish /food waste in the correct bins.
- We leave our lunch boxes in class trolley.
- We walk to our lines quietly and leave hall safely.

DINING HALL / LUNCH TIME ROUTINE

P1 - P4 Lunch Time

1. Children seated & leave at designated times
2. Teacher on duty to ensure each class walks to canteen hatch to receive dinner
3. Lunch children remain seated & supervisor will collect rubbish with bin
4. 'Grace After Meals' Prayer
5. On signal 'GO' P3 & P4 stand up & walk to their lines quietly & carefully.
 - P4 beside dinner hatch and P3 beside PE store
 - P1 beside dinner hatch and P2 beside PE store
6. Walk carefully along corridor to playground.
7. P3 & P4 lunch boxes left in class trolley
8. Lunch boxes brought to classrooms -Pupil jobs

P5 - P7 Lunch Time

1. Children seated & leave at designated times
2. Teacher on duty to ensure each class walks to canteen hatch to receive dinner
3. Lunch children remain seated & supervisor will collect rubbish with bin
4. 'Grace After Meals' Prayer
5. On signal 'GO' all children stand, P5 & P7 walk to their lines quietly & carefully.
 - P5 beside dinner hatch and P7 beside PE store
 - P6 stand at tables
6. Walk carefully to playground
7. Lunch boxes left in class trolley.
8. Lunch boxes brought to classrooms -Pupil jobs

BREAK/DINNER TIME RULES DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER

- Children must eat all their dinner or lunch in dining hall prior to returning to class.
- All children will be supervised in their classrooms.
- Pupils must obey and respect the supervisors on duty at all times.
- Pupils remain in their classrooms unless they have permission to leave.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR STRATEGIES

The adult staff will make every effort to promote, support and reinforce positive behaviour and a sense of achievement. Therefore, a range of strategies will be used to encourage a positive constructive attitude.

Supporting Positive Behaviour

- Highlight the children doing the right thing and making the right choice.
Acknowledge it publicly and privately
- Separate the behaviour from the child; identify the undesirable behaviour (e.g. running in the corridor is unsafe.)
- Teacher will use their own discretion when reprimanding children.
- Try to resolve conflicts promptly; monitor prolonged grudges/resentments
- Help children make right choices; (Use 'First...Then...'; 'When...Then...'; 'If...Then...')
- Empathize with pupils, listen to all sides; give your time; show concern; be fair; be flexible;

At Derrychrin PS, we believe that children should be encouraged to behave well and work hard. We use many positive strategies to do so. Whilst our aim is that children should work and behave well for the pleasure of the task, we recognize that rewards are sometimes necessary and appropriate.

Expectations

- We come to school ready for work
- Be punctual at all times
- Be ready for lessons - homework done and books out, prepared to start as soon as the teacher begins
- Tidy and clean up - after lessons, break & lunch times and end of school day.
- Respect the environment - classrooms, toilets, furniture, equipment, playground, trees, plants etc.
- Play fairly.
- Respect everyone's rights and authority.
- Be courteous to visitors to the school.
- Co-operate with teachers at all times.

Not Allowed

The following are forbidden at Derrychrin PS:

- Truancy.
- Physical violence.
- Threatening behaviour.
- Bullying
- Damage to property.
- Theft of property.
- Leaving litter.
- Discrimination.

Appropriate action to deal with such behaviour will be taken immediately.

The following is essential for good discipline and to avoid bullying behaviour:

Everyone in the school community should be:

- Considerate
- Courteous
- Co-operative
- Friendly
- Hardworking
- Honest
- Trusting
- Responsible
- Caring

Bicycles on school grounds

- Bicycles should be used on school grounds in a safe and correct manner. Also as part of Road Safety Cycling Proficiency/SUSTRANS NI training

REWARDS FOR GOOD BEHAVIOUR

Our main rewards are:

1. Homework Pass
2. A certificate / a sticker
3. Games / Toy Box / Extra Play
4. Computer / iPad Time
5. Rewards Box
6. Principal Praise

Other forms of rewards are also optional.

- **Ticket award** - Children may be awarded tickets for good behaviour, good work, thoughtfulness etc by all staff. These tickets are used in regular whole school draws for various prizes.
- **Verbal praise** - individual, group, class or whole school
- **Positive written comment** - in class work book / homework book
- **Visit to another teacher** - to share positive effort/ work/ attitude
- **Visit to Principal** - for commendation/ merit sticker/signature
- **Positive feedback** - inform parents about their child's positive behaviour
- **Class treats** - each class has their own appropriate whole class reward system.
- **Annual report** - teachers comment on positive contribution child has displayed throughout the academic year.
- **Pupil Responsibility** - in class and within Key Stage / Whole School

MANAGING NEGATIVE BEHAVIOUR

At Derrychrin PS we believe that inappropriate behaviour should be dealt with fairly and consistently by a range of strategies and consequences related to the behaviour.

There may be occasions when a sanction is necessary to focus a child's thinking and to demonstrate to others that certain behaviour has been unacceptable.

Appropriate sanctions will be applied according to the nature of the offence; the age of the child and any pattern of negative behaviour displayed by the child.

It must be noted that an isolated incident will not be dealt with in the same manner as a continuation of persistent, unacceptable behaviour.

NB At Derrychrin PS we recognise that some children have additional needs which have behavioural implications. For this small minority of pupils, positive behaviour strategies/ implications will, on occasions will be applied by the teacher in consultation with the SENCO / Principal and if necessary appropriate outside agencies.

Pupils presenting with additional needs may require a phased induction/reduced timetable to meet their needs in order to access the curriculum.

SANCTIONS

P1 - P7 Sanctions

1. Verbal reminder from teacher
2. Final Reminder
3. 'Time-Out' Reflection
4. Loss of outside play at break-time / lunch-time to complete written task.
5. Name recorded in school behaviour book.
6. Teacher shadowing at break-time
7. Behaviour reflection form completed with class teacher. The form will be signed by parent / guardian.
8. If a child exhibits persistent poor behaviour, parents/guardian will be contacted.

If pupils are asked to complete work in another classroom, each class teacher must ensure that a pupil arrives at the relevant classroom with appropriate task/tasks to be carried out. For persistent inappropriate behaviour parents will be contacted to engage their support to deal with any persistent or out of character poor behaviour. This contact will be initiated by the class teacher and followed up by the Principal if necessary A further sanction may then be imposed after consultation with parents.

In the unlikely event of continued significant poor behaviour, pupils will be excluded from After School Clubs, School Trips or from representing the school.

Roles and Responsibilities

Rights of Pupils

- To feel safe and secure within the school environment
- To be valued equally and to be treated with respect
- To receive an appropriately planned and resourced curriculum
- To be acknowledged for effort and achievement in their class work and homework
- To be positively affirmed for abiding by the school's disciplinary code
- To be listened to sympathetically
- To have opportunities to pursue and develop interests, talents and abilities.

Responsibilities of Pupils

- To come to school on time and to be suitably prepared
- To show respect for people and property - both inside and outside the school
- To behave in a safe and responsible manner
- To co-operate with teaching and nonteaching staff and with peers
- To ask for help when experiencing difficulties.

Rights of Non-Teaching Staff

- To be valued as members of the school community
- To be treated fairly and with respect by pupils and all members of the teaching staff
- To have adequate facilities and resources to enable staff to perform their duties effectively
- To be well informed about school rules and procedures
- To have opportunity to contribute ideas and have them taken into consideration when decisions concerning the smooth running of the school are being taken.

Responsibilities of Non-Teaching Staff

- To come on time, well-prepared for the day ahead
- To co-operate with colleagues and teaching staff
- To act in ways which aim to secure the safety of all pupils at all times
- To share with teaching staff and Senior Management any concerns they have about pupils
- To be aware of school rules and procedures
- To handle sensitive information in a confidential manner at all times
- To seek support from colleagues and Senior Management as and when required.

Rights of Parents

Parents are entitled to expect that:

- Their child will be educated in a safe and caring environment
- Their child will be provided with a broad balanced and appropriate curriculum
- They will be informed about school rules and procedures
- They will be informed about their child's physical and emotional wellbeing
- They will be regularly informed about their child's academic performance
- They will be involved in key decisions about their child's education
- Their child will be taught in a well-resourced and well maintained classroom
- They will have reasonable access to school and staff.

Responsibilities of Parents

Parents have a responsibility to:

- Ensure that their child attends school regularly and punctually
- Support School staff by encouraging their child to abide by school rules
- Ensure that necessary books/equipment are brought to school
- Ensure that homework is completed satisfactorily
- Show interest in school work, meetings and functions
- Inform school of changes in home circumstances where they impact on their child's ability to perform well at school
- Inform school of child's special medical needs
- Encourage independence in their child

Rights of Teachers

- To work in an environment where the rights of all are respected
- To play a constructive role in policy making
- To express their views freely
- To have adequate and appropriate resources and accommodation
- To have a suitable career structure and opportunities for professional development
- To provide positive support and advice from senior colleagues and external bodies
- To feel valued

Responsibilities of Teachers

- To behave in a professional manner at all times
- To prepare and resource lessons thoroughly, taking the ability and aptitude of pupils into account
- To show interest and enthusiasm in pupils' work and learning
- To expect high standards and to acknowledge effort and achievement
- To ensure that class work and homework are appropriately marked
- To share with parents any concerns about their child's progress and development
- To recognise the individuality of each pupil

Staff Commitment:

- All the teachers in Derrychrin will work hard to build good discipline practices so that effective learning can take place. Staff will:
- Organise classroom space and resources carefully.
- Set tasks which enable all pupils to regularly achieve success.
- Give instructions and guidance in clear understandable language.
- Use positive rather than negative language to communicate expectations and feedback to pupils.
- Praise or reward disrupting pupils as soon as acceptable behaviour is observed.
- Be reasonable, firm, fair and positive.

Parent/Guardian Commitment:

The school has the right to expect that parents will give their full support in dealing with their child's behaviour and staff will undertake to inform parents about poor behaviour at an early stage.

The school expects parents to:

- Keep school informed of behaviour difficulties that they may be experiencing at home.
- Inform school of any trauma which may affect their child's performance or behaviour at school.
- Inform school about their child's health and any absences connected with it.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding messages are embedded through PDMU curriculum, school assemblies, staying safe messages and the preventative curriculum, ie. The proactive promotion of positive emotional health and wellbeing of pupils within the school community. This is achieved through the promotion of social skills, interpersonal skills and in offering early intervention when pupils experience emotional difficulties.

Links To Other Policies

The Positive Behaviour Policy should be considered in the context of other school policies including:

- SEN Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Pastoral Care Policy
- Reasonable Force Policy
- E-Safety Policy
- Safeguarding / Child Protection Policy
- Attendance Policy

Consultation & Participation

As a school we wish to regularly consult with all stakeholders and ask for their participation in regularly reviewing this policy and or Anti Bullying Policy. There are a number of consultation methodologies that we can use:

- Questionnaires/online surveys
- Focus groups and/or whole school baseline audits
- Face to face discussion

We will use a variety of these over time to meet our requirements.

Pupil feedback and participation will be carried out through School Council Meetings and Suggestion/Worry Box.

Conclusion

We acknowledge that sustaining good behaviour creates a need for continuous assessment of the effectiveness of approaches to positive behaviour management. We will regularly review and make changes to our Positive Behaviour Policy, encouraging innovation and flexibility in interacting with our pupils. It is hoped through the adoption of this Positive Behaviour Policy, with the whole school community working together, we will provide a safe, happy, secure and structured atmosphere for effective learning.

Signed: _____ **BoG Chairperson**

Signed: _____ **Principal**

Approved by Governors: March 2022

Next Review: March 2025

Appendix 1

Positive Behaviour Policy and Links with Outside Agencies

In attempting to cater for all pupils it is sometimes necessary to call on the support of other professional support agencies from outside the school.

Working closely with the school in maintaining good home / school links is the local Education Welfare Officer who can be contacted by a designated person especially at those times where child protection issues are involved. The designated teachers for child protection are Mr O'Neill and Miss McVey

At times some pupils may develop emotional or behavioural difficulties and may not respond to the range of strategies employed by the school. This may necessitate referral to the local Psychology office initially followed by referral to the Behaviour Support Service for individual support for that pupil or staff training for the whole school.

Appendix 2

Positive Behaviour Policy and Special Needs

Derrychrin Primary School caters for a wide range of children. School is made as inclusive as possible to meet the needs of all children.

It is the school's intention to assist in any way pupils who may experience emotional or behavioural difficulties. Children who have learning and / or behavioural difficulties are considered under the Code of Practice.

Within the Special Needs Policy all teachers are aware of the role they play in assessing targeting and drawing up an individual plan for a pupil depending on what stage of the Code of Practice this pupil is at.

When it becomes evident that further help will be required the SENCO will make a Stage 3 referral to the local Educational Psychologist requesting outside support.

As the approach to behaviour is positive, bullying is not tolerated, and all teachers are aware of the steps to take if incidents of bullying are detected having regard both for victim and bully. These steps are contained in the school anti-bullying policy.

Appendix 3

Behaviour Reflection Forms