

**Code of Behaviour Policy**

In devising the following Code Of Behaviourfor Carrigeen NS, every effort is made to adopt a positive approach to the question of behaviour in the school and greater emphasis is placed on rewards and recognition of good behaviour than on sanctions. We recognise the variety of differences that exist between children and try to accommodate these differences.

Our school rules aim to ensure that each child respects and cares for him/herself and has respect, care, consideration and courtesy for others. In order that these rules are understood and adhered to by all the students of the school, time will be spent in each class at the beginning of each term carrying out the following ***Behaviour Programme***.

**PROGRAMME FOR BEHAVIOUR**:

* The children of each class will be introduced to the code of discipline and behaviour for the school.  They will be taken through each of the rules and exercises will be carried out to ensure they understand the need for these rules and the benefits for themselves.
* Pupils from each class will receive lessons/assemblies on the subjects of good/bad behaviour, discipline, bullying, etc. and incentives will be introduced to encourage good behaviour e.g. ‘Student of the Week’ award.
* The school will investigate the need of talks for both the pupils and parents on the subject of bullying.
* This programme will be carried out at the beginning of each term.

**Implementation of Code of Behaviour:**

**SCHOOL RULES:**

* Children are expected to be caring and courteous in their attitude to others – teachers, staff, parents, friends  and other children.
* All pupils are expected to be in school no later than 9.20 a.m. on each school day unless alternative arrangements have been made with the school principal. If for any reason a child is unable to attend on time, a written note to the class teacher is expected.  A note should also be furnished when children are returning after any absence from school.
* Children are expected to move about the school in a quiet and orderly manner, showing respect for classes in session nearby. In the interests of safety and hygiene children do not run or eat in the corridors of the school.
* All children must go to the playground at break-times( as classrooms are not supervised), weather permitting.  In the playground it is expected that they play and move about in a manner that will allow all to play in safety.  Certain areas adjacent to the playground are out of bounds in the interest of safety.  Certain games are also disallowed because of the danger element in a tarmac playground.
* Bullying in any of its forms will not be tolerated.
* When school finishes each day, all children must leave the school grounds in a quiet and orderly manner.
* Bad language will not be tolerated in the school.
* Homework should be done neatly and in full.  A written note from parent/guardian is required if homework is not done. **See Homework Policy**.
* The school uniform must be worn each day except on P.E. days when the school tracksuit must be worn.

**POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS CHALLENGING BEHAVIOUR:**

The school wishes to stress the need for a positive attitude towards challenging behaviour.  The school encourages and re-enforces exemplary behaviour with minimum attention to those who wish to choose inappropriate attitudes:

* Praise and commendation for work well done
* Recognition for effort
* Rewards for success and achievement
* Merit awards
* Promotion of games, craft and pleasant opportunities to enjoy
* Certificates

**SANCTIONS**

1. The overall responsibility for discipline within the school rests with the principal.  Each teacher has responsibility for the maintenance of discipline within his/her classroom while sharing a common responsibility for good order within the school premises.  A child will be referred to the principal for serious breaches of discipline and for repeated incidents of minor incidents.

2.  **The following strategies may be used to show disapproval of unacceptable behaviour:**

**a) Reasoning with the child**

**b) Reprimand (including advice on how to improve)**

**c) Temporary separation from peers, friends and others**

**d) Loss of privileges**

**e) Prescribing additional work**

**f) Communication with parents**

**g) Referral to Principal**

**h)The Principal may request that the parents/guardians take the student home early from school due to serious misbehaviour.**

**i) Suspension (temporary)**

**(The above list of reprimands does not have to be followed in order.)**

3.In the case of serious misbehaviour or persistent disruption, the following steps may be taken:

a)      Class teacher will keep a written record of all incidents of serious misbehaviour as well as a record of improvements in the behaviour of disruptive pupils and will inform the principal of the problem.

b)      Parents/Guardians will be notified, requesting one or both of them to meet with the class teacher. The principal may be in attendance.

c)     The Principal may request that the parents/guardians take the student home early from school due to serious misbehaviour.

d) The principal may suspend a student immediately for up to 3 full school days for serious misbehaviour (which includes aggressive, threatening or violent misbehaviour towards a teacher, staff member or other children).

e) If, after the above steps have been taken, there are repeated instances of serious misbehaviour (which include aggressive, threatening or violent misbehaviour towards a teacher, staff member or other children) the chairperson of the board of management will be informed and the parents will be requested in writing to attend at the school to meet the chairperson and principal.  Notification once again shall be delivered by hand or by registered mail.  Copies of all correspondence shall be kept in the school files.  If the parents do not give an undertaking that the pupil will behave in an acceptable manner in the future the pupil may have to be suspended for a temporary period of up to 5 days.If the pupil poses a danger to other students/staff members, he/she may be expelled from the school.

f)After 3 suspensions , the Board of Management may consider expulsion from the school.

The co-operation of parents and guardians in dealing with discipline and other problems is deeply appreciated.  Therefore we would ask you to ensure your child has a good understanding of the Code of Behaviour for the school and understands the need to abide by these rules.

In order to make this work it is necessary for the school to ensure each child and parent/guardian has received and understands the Code of Behaviour for the school. This code is published on the school website.

The objective of this code is to ensure a safe and happy learning environment for the children of Carrigeen NS.

**This code of behaviour was reviewed and ratified on ­­­­­19th January, 2016.**