

Code of Behaviour

Introduction:

The Code of Behaviour for St. Paul's National school has been reviewed following a process of consultation between the Board of Management, teachers, parents and pupils. The code has been ratified by the Board of Management.

Mission Statement:

Within the atmosphere and ethos of a Catholic school, we in St. Paul's aim to ensure:

- That each child develops academically, personally and socially to the best of their ability.
- That each child develops an enthusiasm for life-long learning and a thirst for knowledge.
- That each child acquires an appreciation of their religion and a respect for other religions, other people and the world in which they live.

Aims of the Code of Behaviour:

- To create a positive learning environment that encourages and reinforces good behaviour, which allows the school to function in an orderly and harmonious way.
- To promote self-esteem and self-motivation.
- To create an atmosphere of respect, tolerance and consideration for others.
- To enhance the learning environment where children can make progress in all aspects of their development.
- To promote positive behaviour and self-discipline recognising the differences between children and the need to accommodate these differences.
- To ensure the safety and well-being of all members of the school community.
- To assist parents and pupils in understanding the systems and procedures that form part of the Code of Behaviour and to seek their co-operation in the application of these procedures.
- To ensure that the system rules, rewards, and sanctions are implemented in a fair and consistent manner.

Behaviour in class:

Pupils are expected to:

- Show courtesy and respect for others in order to ensure a safe, happy and secure working environment.
- Co-operate fully with instructions given by the teacher.
- Complete, to the best of their ability, oral and/or written work assigned to them in school and/or for homework.
- Leave and return to classrooms in an orderly fashion.

- Bring all required books, copies and materials to school and home each day.
- Keep their own area, and the classroom, neat and tidy at all times.
- Remain seated and quiet in the event of the teacher having to leave the classroom.
- Treat the property of the school and other pupils with respect.
- Wear the correct uniform each day. (See uniform policy)

Behaviour in Yard & School Environment:

- Pupils must accept the authority of all staff members.
- For reasons of safety and to minimise accidents pupils are expected to move about the school in an orderly fashion.
- Boisterous behaviour, rough play and dangerous games are not allowed.
- Pupils must remain within the designated area of the yard for their class groupings during break times.
- Permission must be sought to re-enter school buildings from supervising teachers.
- Drinks, games, gadgets and mobile phones are not allowed in the yard.
- Pupils must keep playgrounds litter free.
- When the bell rings at the end of breaks, children must walk in an orderly fashion to their line.
- A child with any injury must be reported to the teacher on yard supervision. This teacher must ensure that this injury has been attended to. A sticker will be given to the children informing parents that their child had cause to visit the first aid room. The injury should also be recorded in the Injury Book. When necessary, parents may be asked to bring their child home or the child may be brought to a doctor or hospital. Children who bang their heads will be given a red wristband.
- At break times on wet days, pupils must remain seated and not leave their seats without permission.

Promoting Positive Behaviour:

Part of the vision of St. Paul's is to help children achieve their personal best and thus prepare them for future education, life and work. Our reward system seeks to provide encouragement to all children of all abilities and talents. Praise is earned by the maintenance of good standards as well as by particularly noteworthy personal achievements. Children are expected to adhere to our three Golden Rules: *Kind Hands, Kind Words, Kind Feet*.

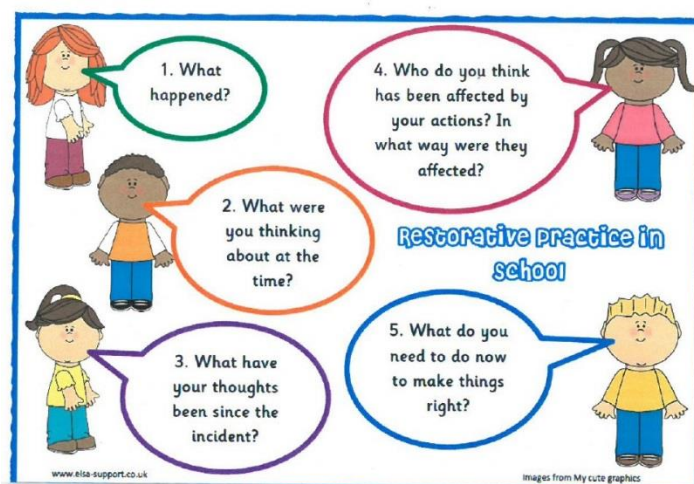
Praise may be given by means of any one of the following:

- A quiet word or gesture to show approval;
- A comment in a pupil's exercise book.

- A visit to another member of staff or to the Principal or DeputyPrincipal for commendation;
- A word of praise in front of a group or class or at Assembly;
- A mention to parents, written or verbal communication;
- Individual Reward System: Children individually earn stars or points for good behaviour.
- Group Reward System: Children are rewarded for good behaviour when working together. (usually by table).
- Class Star Chart: Each class has a class star chart displayed on the door of their classroom. Members of staff and visitors may reward class stars for a variety of reasons relating to positive behaviour and work in the school environment. Once the target is reached the class is commended at Assembly and also receive an award e.g. extra play time, cookery, trip to Ocean Room, nature walk, extra computer time.

Restorative Practice:

The climate of the school is one of connection where reflection and a solution focused approach are embedded. It focuses on the harm done rather than only on the rule broken. It gives a voice to the harmed and it allows for collaborative problem solving. Restorative Practice in our school provides a focus on developing positive relationships between all members of the school community. It gives opportunities for pupils to take responsibility for their behaviour and learning. Restorative Practice is a process whereby children are given the opportunity to reflect on their behaviour and how they and others have been affected by it so as to help heal brokenrelationships and prevent reoccurrence.



Children with Different Needs

The school respects the difference of all individuals and recognises that some children may require extra assistance in understanding and complying with the rules. Children who find management of their behaviour more difficult may require an individual or personalised behaviour plan with associated rewards and consequences. This will be completed in collaboration with the child, parents, teacher and principal.

Role of Parents:

Having a good working relationship between the school and parents is central to maintaining a consistent and positive approach to dealing with children. A lot of time and consideration has been given to implementing this Code of Behaviour and we would ask parents to fully support it. Parents and teachers should develop a joint strategy to address specific difficulties, in addition to sharing a broader philosophy which can be implemented at home and in school.

Ratification:

This code was ratified by the Board of Management and reviewed on the 4th of October 2023.