



# St Joseph's P.S. Let Your Light Shine

## Positive Behaviour and Discipline Policy

### School Mission Statement and Aims

Every child in St. Joseph's will be provided with the opportunity to achieve their full potential in all aspects of development within a safe, secure, motivating, caring and Christian environment.

We aim to help our pupils:

- To develop as confident, disciplined and enquiring learners, able to make informed choices and decisions.
- To enjoy reading and to develop a confidence with language so as to enable them to communicate effectively with others.
- To develop the skills and knowledge of mathematics to enable them to cope confidently with everyday situations.
- To know and understand their world through scientific, historical, geographical inquiry and to come to an understanding of their responsibilities to care for the environment.
- To develop practical, creative, artistic and physical skills.
- To understand their Catholic faith and reflect this in their daily living.

### Introduction

Our positive behaviour policy begins on the premise that the children in St. Joseph's P.S. are good children, who show respect to every person in

the school and are in turn respected by all. We expect a lot from our pupils in terms of positive behaviour and where positive behaviour breaks down we work in partnership with home to ensure negative patterns don't emerge.

### **Joint working between home and school**

Parents are the primary carers of their children and so it is vital that parents are informed of their child's inappropriate behaviour if that occurs.

Where home-school links are strong, patterns of misbehaviour rarely occur. Weak home-school links in relation to positive behaviour can be seen in situations where ongoing misbehaviour is not reported home by the school or class teacher. It is also characterized by situations in which home does not take seriously issues highlighted by the school or where a spirit of mistrust develops between adults who should be working together for the benefit of the child.

### **Positive behaviour**

Within St. Joseph's PS the emphasis is towards praise and encouragement rather than criticism and punishment. It is part of the school policy to emphasize positive approaches to maintain and improve discipline.

### **The School Behaviour Code**

The following code is over-arching in that positive behaviour will take place if everyone works within the spirit contained in the code.

1. We come to school to learn
2. We listen to others
3. We care for others
4. We keep safe
5. We look after our school and everything in it
6. We only bring to school what we need

## **The role of staff**

All of the staff of St. Joseph's Primary School are responsible for the care and safety of all the pupils. We want all pupils and staff to work in a happy secure environment

The Staff will:

- Promote self-esteem and respect
- Set a good example by their own behaviour
- Use circle time to discuss bullying with all classes so that they feel that they can speak openly
- Be watchful of pupils in all situations
- Listen to children who say they are being bullied and report cases to an adult in school who should pass this information on to the designated teacher for child protection/principal.
- Follow up any complaint made by a parent and report back

## **School Rules**

- School begins at 9.10 am
- Children must walk at all times within the school building
- Children must look after their own property and respect the property of others
- All personal belongings should be clearly marked with their names
- Children should not wear jewellery to school. Girls only are permitted to wear studs earrings though earrings, especially hoops, are a health and safety risk to the pupils
- Children must stay within the school grounds
- No glass bottles or sharp instruments should be brought to school
- Children should use the cloakrooms and toilets in a mannerly fashion

## **Class Rules**

We, the teaching staff of St. Joseph's PS, believe that good classroom behaviour is essential if effective learning is to take place. In order to achieve this goal the following strategies should be implemented:

- Giving regular praise and encouragement to pupils
- Attempting to make lessons enjoyable and challenging for pupils through encouraging them to make positive contributions to activities
- Involvement of all pupils in classroom activity, matching a child's ability to task and acknowledging their different abilities so that each child regularly achieves success
- Developing a small number of classroom rules in consultation with pupils

## **Sanctions**

We do expect pupils to behave in a manner that is reasonable in primary school. We do not expect perfect behaviour at all times though that would be desirable. We do expect pupils to try to abide by school rules and not to openly attempt to break them or clearly attempt to hurt other people through name calling, ignoring them or by physically hurting them.

In the event of misbehaviour;

- The child is spoken to by the class teacher or other adult in the school e.g. lunchtime supervisor
- The child is spoken to by the Vice-Principal or Principal
- Extra-work may be given e.g. a letter of apology
- Supervised detention at break and or lunchtime
- Pupil is sent to another class or withdrawn from class or playground etc to calm the situation
- A record of severe misbehaviour may be kept
- In the event of severe misbehaviour and/or physical assault the school may contact the parents involved to ask them to come into school to help us resolve the issue
- The school reserves the right to carry out the CCMS suspension and expulsion procedures

## **Rewards Systems**

Each teacher has their own system of rewards that suits the needs of their own class. In addition to this each month the class teacher selects a pupil of the month for the Bidy Kauffman award. An overall school

award is also made each month. The Bidy Kauffman award is given to children who through behaviour and attitude have excelled in some way that month.

### **Cyber-Bullying**

Cyber-bullying in St. Joseph's will be regarded as a serious breach of our Behaviour Policy. Parents will be informed if such behaviour comes to our attention. We reserve the right to take action including the use of CCMS suspension and expulsion procedures to protect everyone in our school from such victimization.

### **Concluding Statement**

It is hoped that this policy will support parents, pupils and staff and that it will encourage the pupils to grow to become responsible adults taking care of each other and the world they live in.