



CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

The aims of the Code of Behaviour for Glynn N.S. are:

- To provide guidance for pupils, teachers and parents on behavioural expectations.
- To provide for the effective and safe operation of the school.
- 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.
- To enable teachers to teach without disruption.

1. In devising the code, consideration has been given to the particular needs and circumstances of Glynn N.S. The aim is to ensure that the individuality of each child is accommodated while acknowledging the right of each child to education in a relatively disruption free environment.

2. Every effort will be made by all members of staff to adopt a positive approach to the question of behaviour in the school. The code offers a framework within which teachers utilise positive techniques of motivation and encouragement.

3. Glynn N.S. places greater emphasis on rewards than on sanctions in the belief that this will, in the long run, give the best results and leads to better self-discipline.

4. Glynn N.S. recognises the variety of differences that exist between children and the need to accommodate these differences.

5. It is agreed that a high standard of behaviour requires a strong sense of community with the school and a high level of co-operation among staff and between staff, pupils and parents.

6. Rules are being kept to a minimum and are positively stated in terms of what pupils should do.

7. All efforts will be made to match the curriculum to the abilities, aptitudes and interests of each pupil. This should help to reduce boredom, lack of interest and lack of progress.

8. The overall responsibility for discipline within Glynn N.S. 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 pupil will be referred to the Principal for serious breaches of discipline and for repeated incidents of minor misbehaviour.

General guidelines for Positive Behaviour:

1. 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.
2. Pupils are expected to show respect for all school property and to keep the school environment clean and litter free.
3. Pupils are expected to take pride in their appearance, to have all books and required materials and to be in the right place at the right time.



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4. Pupils are expected to obey a teacher's instructions, to work to the best of their ability and to present assignments neatly.
5. Pupils are expected to attend every day unless there is a genuine reason for absence, in which case the school must be informed in writing, stating the reason for absence.

Strategies for affirming Positive Behaviour:

1. A quiet word or gesture to show approval
2. A comment on a child's exercise book
3. A visit to another class or Principal for commendation
4. Praise in front of the class group
5. Individual class merit awards, points awards or award stamps
6. Delegating some special responsibility or privilege
7. Written or verbal communication with parent.

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

1. Reasoning with the pupil
2. Verbal reprimand (including advice on how to improve)
3. Temporary separation from peers within class or in yard and/or temporary removal to another class.
4. Prescribing extra work
5. Loss of privileges.
6. Detention during break
7. Communication with parents
8. Referral to principal
9. Principal communicating with parents.
10. 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)
11. Pupils will not be deprived of engagement in a Curricular Area, except on the grounds of health/safety. Communication with parents will be verbal or by letter, depending on circumstances. The parents concerned will be invited to come to the school to discuss their child's case.
12. Physical intervention is not used in Glynn NS except where there is a threat to safety.

For gross misbehaviour or repeated instances of serious misbehaviour suspension may be considered. Parents concerned will be invited to the school to discuss their child's case and may be asked to bring their child home to show the seriousness of the situation. Aggressive, threatening or violent behaviour towards a teacher or pupil will be regarded as serious or gross misbehaviour. Where there are repeated instances of serious misbehaviour, the Chairperson of the BOM will be informed and the parents will be requested in writing to attend at the school to meet the Chairperson and the principal. If the parents do not give an undertaking that the pupil will behave in an acceptable manner in the future, the pupil may be suspended for a period. Prior to suspension, where possible, the Principal may review the case in consultation with teachers and other members of the school community involved, with due regard to records of previous misbehaviours, their pattern and context, sanctions and other interventions used and their outcomes and any relevant medical information. Suspension will be in accordance with the Rules for National Schools and the Education Welfare Act 2000. In the case of gross misbehaviour, where it is necessary to ensure that order and discipline are maintained and to secure the safety of the pupils, the Board may authorize the Chairperson or Principal to sanction an immediate suspension for a period not exceeding three school days, pending a discussion of the matter with the parents. Expulsion may be considered in an



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extreme case, in accordance with the Rules for National Schools and the Education Welfare Act 2000. Before suspending or expelling a pupil, the Board shall notify the Local Welfare Education Officer in writing in accordance with Section 24 of the Education Welfare Act.

In the belief that the most effective schools tend to be those with the best relationship with parents, every effort will be made by the principal and staff to ensure that parents, are kept well informed that the school provides a welcoming atmosphere towards parents and that parents are not only told when their children are in trouble but also when they have behaved particularly well.

Parents have a role to play by encouraging their children to have a sense of respect for themselves and others. They should show an interest in support and encourage their children's school work. They should be familiar with the code of behaviour, support its implementation and co-operate with teacher in instances where their child's behaviour is causing difficulties for others. They should communicate with the school in relation to any problems which may affect their child's progress/behaviour.

Pupils have responsibilities to attend school regularly and punctually. They should listen to their teachers and act on instructions/advice. They should show respect to all members of the school community, school property and the property of others. They should avoid behaving in a way that would endanger others. Name-calling, swearing and nasty remarks are to be avoided. They should include other pupils in games and activities. Lastly they should follow school and class rules.

Bullying is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the school's Anti-Bullying Policy.

Teachers should endeavour in implementing the code of Behaviour to create a safe working environment for each pupil. They should recognize and affirm good work. They should be consistent, courteous and fair. They should keep opportunities for disruptive behaviour to a minimum and deal appropriately with misbehaviour. They should keep a record of instances of serious misbehaviour or repeated instances of misbehaviour. Lastly they should communicate with parents when necessary and provide reports on matters of mutual concern.

This policy was reviewed and approved by the Board of Management on 25th April 2016. It will be reviewed in April 2019 or earlier if required.

Signed Petruck Stebbard 11

Rev. P. Stafford PP

Chairperson BoM

Date 25th April 2016