**CODE OF BEHAVIOUR - SCOIL EOIN BAISTE**

**Why we have a code of behaviour:**

In devising the code of behaviour, consideration has to be given to the particular needs and circumstances of this school. *Scoil Eoin Baiste* promotes a positive climate and atmosphere where every child feels happy, valued and safe and where we endeavour to help every child learn and progress in all areas of their development. It provides a framework within which all children can realise their full potential using positive techniques of motivation and encouragement. It encourages a strong sense of community and a high level of respect and co-operation between staff, parents and pupils.

Every effort will be made by all members of staff to adopt a positive approach to the question of behaviour in the school.

The school recognises the variety of differences that exist between children and the need to tolerate these differences.

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

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

The school places greater emphasis on rewards than on consequences in the belief that this will, in the long run, give the best results.

**Clár ama na scoile**

* School opens at 9.10am
* School closes: Junior/Senior Infants at 1.50pm

 1st to 6th classes at 2.50pm

**\*Staggered opening and closing times and lunch breaks due to Covid-19 procedures and/or other events.**

**Homework**

It is the policy of the school to assign homework on a regular basis. Parents are strongly advised to taken an active interest in their child’s homework and to SIGN their homework journal each night (ensuring that it is done).

**Reward system (in line with our Incredible Years Programme**

The following strategies will be used to recognise good behaviour, good work and improvements in all areas of school life:

* Phone-call to parents highlighting really good behaviour/achievement (from HSCL officer/class teacher)
* Assembly monthly.
* Stickers and stars/certificates/homework pass
* Special time: in computer room, class treat (eg.DVD, extra play time)
* **“Golden Time”** – to be awarded to Junior Infants once weekly (20mins). Every Friday for Senior Infants to 6th class (30minutes). Activities to include: arts & crafts, PE, games, DVD, etc. It is a class decision.
* Class based “Superstars” competition – reward party at the end for successful class, usually each term.
* Individual /whole class rewards
* Notes/message to Principal

**School rules**

In order for school to function harmoniously and efficiently we have the following rules:

* I will be in school on time with the appropriate books and equipment
* I will be kind and respectful to all teachers, pupils and visitors to our school
* I will behave well in class so that all pupils can learn without disruption
* I will listen to my teacher and not interrupt, follow instructions and work to the best of my ability
* I will keep our school clean and will respect my own property, the property of others, the school building and premises
* I should always walk in school
* I will be honest and not cover up the truth
* Explanation notes are required for absences/no homework/no uniform, etc
* I will never leave the school / school grounds without permission
* Incredible Years Dina-School rules (Junior infants to 2nd class)

**Yard rules**

The following rules are on display in our classrooms. The rules apply to all children and are explained to all children:

* **SNA is the only adult with permission to allocate “toilet passes” to all pupils on the yard. A pupil must have toilet pass to gain access to school/corridor/toilets during break-time. A pupil leaving the yard for any other reason must have permission from Teacher on duty.**
* Pupils must stay within allocated boundaries.
* On damp days footballs given to 5th and 6th class only
* Hands and feet to self. I will not exclude anyone or hurt their feelings
* As soon as bell rings, line up immediately for prayers

**The above list consists of examples and is not exhaustive**

**Bullying**

Scoil Eoin Baiste is a “Bully-Free” zone!! We are implementing and following the KiVa programme.

**\*Please see bullying policy**

**Negative behaviours**

While we promote and reward positive behaviour, negative behaviours need to be recognised and dealt with and consequences will be administered. The degree of negative behaviours (minor/serious/very serious) will be judged by the teachers and/or principal based on a common sense approach with regard to the gravity/frequency of such negative behaviours.

**Examples of negative behaviours**

* Bullying (see anti-bullying policy)
* Defiant behaviour / timeout
* Leaving school premises/room/play-yard without permission
* Deliberately damaging school or another person’s property/theft
* Aggressive threatening behaviour / threatening abusive language
* Bringing serious danger to or assaulting any person
* Bringing illegal substances or dangerous implements to school
* Use of and or Recording on devices
* Racist remarks/behaviour
* Repeated minor misdemeanours

*The above list consists of examples and is not exhaustive*

**The following steps will be taken when dealing with negative behaviours.**

*Regular occurrence of negative behaviours will warrant serious action under this code*

**The following steps are used in line with the severity of the behaviour and not in order**

* Verbal reminder
* Reasoning with pupil (point out rules)
* Child’s name written on board (lets them know they are on notice) – Traffic light system
* Time out / Temporary separation from peers. Formal school work to be prescribed. **Parents will be informed at this stage in writing**
* All incidents from yard or classroom must be recorded in Teachers class behaviour book
* If behaviour continues a Red text alert sent to parents/guardians. Class Teacher and parents meet. Behaviour plans put in place and parents requested to sign agreed plan (HSCL will attend meeting were necessary).
* Referral to deputy principal first
* Referral to principal
* Formal meeting with principal and parents
* Chairperson informed, Suspension /expulsion in accordance with Rule 130 as amended by circular 7/88.

*Suspension: serious and very serious negative behaviours may be considered as grounds for suspension. Suspension is in accordance with terms of Rule 130 (5) of Rules for National Schools and in accordance with D.O.E. In accordance with this rule, a school my suspend a pupil for 3days and up to 10days with approval by the Board of Management*

* Expulsion: done in accordance with D.O.E guidelines and where it is necessary to safeguard the welfare of pupils, teachers, and employees.
* Parent/guardian maybe requested to remove child from school (playground, lunchtime, etc.) who poses aggressive/violent/threatening or anti-social behaviour towards staff, pupils or others

*Before resorting to serious consequences (suspension/expulsion) the normal channels of communication between school and parents will be utilised. Parents will be involved at an early stage rather than as a last resort.*

All members of the teaching staff have been involved in planning the code. In the belief that the most effective schools rend to be those with the best relationships with parents, every effort will be made by the principal teacher and staff to ensure that parents are kept well informed, that the school provides a welcoming atmosphere towards parents and that parents are told not only when their children are in trouble but when they have behaved particularly well also.

***Ratified by the Board of Management on: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

***Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

***(Principal) (Chairperson/Board of Management)***