

Code of behaviour and anti-bullying policy.

St. Joseph's N.S. seeks to create a happy and safe environment where all our children are cherished equally and where diversity is respected. We aim to create a culture of care, respect, listening and support between home, school and community. We have an open door policy where parents are always welcome to call.

Discipline issues

The principal, teachers, snas, volunteers and all staff will use positive motivation to promote good behaviour. Discipline in classrooms will be firm, clear and consistent and should never undermine the child's self-esteem.

Misbehaviour will be dealt with on an individual basis as there are usually a number of reasons why a young child misbehaves. Parents will be contacted by class teacher in cases of continued misbehaviour and indiscipline. If necessary a meeting with parents, teacher, child and principal will take place if the issue cannot easily be resolved.

Bullying

Bullying occurs when a person wilfully and repeatedly exercises power over another with hostile or malicious intent. Serious bullying is a rare and occasional risk to a minority of children. Rows at school are unpleasant but may be part of normal growing-up - not bullying.

Wide ranges of physical or verbal behaviour of an aggressive or anti-social nature are encompassed by the term bullying. Bullying or rough behaviour will not be tolerated by the school in any circumstances.

The school encourages children who feel they are being bullied to tell their teacher, parent or another trusted adult. The school follows a strict procedure in dealing with issues of bullying. This involves speaking to victim and bully, contacting parents, seeking agreement on future behaviour and date for review.

In the case of persistent bullying and/or misbehaviour it may be necessary to revisit the above. It might also be necessary to involve a wider group in the response – the Board of Management, Health Board, Gardai and Department of Education and Science.

Full details of the anti-bullying procedure and code of discipline may be obtained from the principal's office on request.

Our Golden Rules

1. Be gentle
2. Be kind to others
3. Show respect for your classmates and teachers
4. Be a good friend. Let others join your games. Take turns
5. Listen to others
6. Speak nicely. Use kind words
7. Smile, be happy, have fun
8. Think first
9. Do your best
19. Always tell the truth

St. Joseph's N. S.



every child, every chance, every day