

**THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT**  
**St. Attracta's Junior National School**  
**Meadowbrook**  
**Dundrum**  
**Dublin 16**

[www.stattractasjns.ie](http://www.stattractasjns.ie)  
[stattractasjns@gmail.com](mailto:stattractasjns@gmail.com)



## **WHOLE SCHOOL BEHAVIOUR POLICY**

Updated 2014 - following ratification of New Anti-Bullying Policy



## ST. ATTRACTA'S JUNIOR NATIONAL SCHOOL

### WHOLE SCHOOL BEHAVIOUR POLICY

#### **NOTE**

*The area of this policy referring to "Bullying Behaviour" was updated following the introduction of the new Anti-Bullying Policy drawn up by the partners in education in May 2014.*

#### **THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE POLICY**

- To promote an environment where respect for each other, all children and adults, and their surroundings prevails, which enables quality teaching and learning to take place
- To promote positive behaviour by praise, and by presenting positive models
- To develop self discipline by understanding the need for appropriate behaviour
- To be familiar with the school behaviour code
- To accept and comply with the code
- To achieve a high level of positive behaviour at all times both in and out of school

#### **STRATEGIES IN PLACE TO ENCOURAGE AND PROMOTE POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR AND SELF-ESTEEM**

- Adults present a good model of relationships and attitudes
- Use praise effectively, and praise and encourage individual and group examples of good practice
- Involve the children in establishing class rules.
- Phrase all rules positively – Do .. / We will....
- Ensure that the rules are understood
- Be consistent as an individual and across the staff
- Treat children as individuals
- Give consideration to seating / grouping arrangements in class
- Ensure good match of work to ability – differentiation
- Have high and positive expectations of all pupils
- Give support but don't help too much
- Ensure that all children have frequent opportunities to succeed
- Where possible, understand when a child is attention seeking
- Identify reasons for misbehaviour
- Affirmation of individual, groups or class by other adults

#### **ST. ATTRACTA'S SCHOOL CODE: THE GOLDEN RULES**

1. **Do** listen to other people. **DON'T** interrupt
2. **DO** be gentle. **DON'T** hurt anyone.
3. **DO** work hard. **DON'T** waste your or other people's time.
4. **DO** be kind and helpful. **DON'T** hurt peoples' feelings.
5. **DO** be honest. **DON'T** cover up the truth.
6. **DO** look after property. **DON'T** waste or damage things.

#### **POSITIVE REINFORCEMENTS USED IN OUR SCHOOL**

- Positive behaviour is commended verbally; in class, at assemblies, to parents
- Children are sent to another teacher/principal for recognition and perhaps a merit sticker
- Examples of positive behaviour are identified and used as a model for others
- Written comments and/or “smiley face”
- Celebrate achievements at whole school assemblies
- Lucky dips
- Stars/merit stickers

## **THE CODE OF BEHAVIOUR IN THE CLASSROOM**

- We will say “please” and “thank you” when we ought to
- We will try to work quietly so as not to disturb others
- We will listen carefully when the teacher is talking to us
- We will listen carefully to each other
- We will try not to distract others by talking
- We will tidy up after ourselves
- We will speak one at a time
- We will not answer cheekily
- We will eat on the wet area only
- We will use the recycling bins
- We will try and finish all our work
- We will co-operate with the lunch parent at lunchtime
- We will not run around the room
- We will stay in our places when the teacher is out of the room
- We will respect our and other people’s person and property
- We will not bully others

### **FROM ST. ATTRACTA’S JNS ANTI-BULLYING POLICY May 2014**

In accordance with the Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools, bullying is defined as follows:

- ***Bullying is unwanted negative behaviour, verbal, psychological or physical conducted, by an individual or group against another person (or persons) and which is repeated over time.***

The following types of bullying behaviour are included in the definition of bullying:

- deliberate exclusion, malicious gossip and other forms of relational bullying, extortion, isolation, and persistent name calling,
- cyber bullying, and
- identity-based bullying such as homophobic bullying, racist bullying, bullying based on a person’s membership of the Traveller community, and bullying of those with disabilities or special educational needs

Isolated or once-off incidents of intentional negative behaviour do not fall within the definition of bullying and should be dealt with, as appropriate, in accordance with the school’s code of behaviour.

However, in the context of this policy, placing a once-off offensive or hurtful public message, image or statement on a social network site or other public forum where that message, image or statement can be viewed and/or repeated by other people will be regarded as bullying behaviour.

Negative behaviour that does not meet this definition of bullying will be dealt with in accordance with our school’s code of behaviour.

## **THE CODE OF BEHAVIOUR IN THE YARD/PLAYGROUND**

- We will walk to and from the playground

- We will stay inside the yellow lines
- We will not walk on or sit on the walls
- We will skip in the **skipping area**, when we have a skipping rope
- We will play safe games
- We will play fairly
- We will use kind hands, kind feet and kind words
- We will freeze when the whistle is blown
- We will ask **the teacher** if we need to go to the toilet
- We will follow the instructions of the teacher on the yard
- We will respect our own and other people's person and property
- We will not bully others
- We will dismount from any bike/scooter/skate-board/flicker etc when we enter the school grounds; we will walk our transport item to the lock up area or the classroom door

### **THE CODE OF BEHAVIOUR IN THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT**

- We will walk when going to the hall, the library, the office or any other room
- We will move around the building quietly
- We will not bring dangerous items to school, such as cigarettes, matches, alcohol, drugs, knives etc
- We will look after all school property
- We will leave our mobile phones at home

### **THE CODE OF PRACTICE FOR ADULTS**

- Adults and those dropping and collecting children to or from school are asked not to park on the yellow zigzag lines adjacent to the pedestrian crossing on the Broadford Road
- Please co-operate with the Lollipop Lady, and be courteous and polite at all times
- Please do not park in, or use the "**Staff Only Car Park**" on the Broadford Road as a "drop off point" for children as it is not safe
- Please do not permit your child to enter the school grounds by walking through the Staff Car Park on the Broadford Road, as it is dangerous to do so
- Please encourage your child to cross at the pedestrian lights in the absence of the Lollipop Lady
- If you bring your child to school by car through the Wyckham Park/Ludford area, please drive very slowly along the roads of the estates and drive particularly slowly once you enter the ramped area as children approach the school from all angles in this area and are forced to cross at the ramps, as there is no recognisable crossing point such as a pedestrian crossing
- Please ensure that you never park in front of the school gates, even when school is not in session, as this is the access point for all emergency services
- Please enter the school grounds through the pedestrian gates only
- Please do not cycle through, or bring dogs into, the school playground
- Please ensure that adults and young children do not behave in a way outside classroom doors which disrupts the activity going on in the class
- Please do not smoke or use bad language on the school premises
- Please respect our school environment

### **STRATEGIES & SANCTIONS FOR MISBEHAVIOUR**

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

- Reasoning
- Verbal reprimand (including advice on how to modify behaviour)
- “Time Out” in the classroom
- Loss of privileges – P.E. time / Art / Activity Time / Library Time
- Letter of Apology
- Removal for a brief period to another teacher’s room
- Communication with parents
- Temporary separation from peers
- Temporary separation in the playground for playground misbehaviour
- Property lost, damaged, or taken, will be replaced
- Referral to principal
- Suspension (in the event of ongoing serious misbehaviour)

**IN THE CASE OF SERIOUS MISBEHAVIOUR THE PROCEDURE IS AS FOLLOWS:**

1. The class teacher will consult with the principal and the parents of the child with a view to overcoming the difficulty.
2. If the problem persists it may be necessary to have on-going discussions between the parents, teacher and principal to monitor the situation, with the objective of helping the child.
3. When there are reported incidents of serious misbehaviour which have not been resolved through steps 1& 2 above, the Chairperson of the Board of Management will be informed, and the parents will be requested in writing, to attend at the school, to meet the Chairperson with the principal and the class teacher. The parents will be informed that if the serious misbehaviour continues the pupil will be suspended for a temporary period.

**Suspension will be in accordance with Rule 130 (5) of the Rules for National Schools.**

**RULE 130 (5) OF THE RULES FOR NATIONAL SCHOOLS**

Where the Board of Management deems it necessary to make provision in the code of discipline to deal with continuously disruptive pupils or with a serious breach of discipline, by authorising the Chairperson or Principal Teacher to exclude a pupil or pupils from the school, the maximum exclusion period shall be 3 school days. A special decision of the Board of Management is necessary to authorise a further period of exclusion up to a maximum of ten (10) school days to allow for consultation with the pupil’s or pupils’ parents or guardians. In exceptional circumstances, the Board of Management may authorise a further period of exclusion in order to enable the matter to be reviewed.

# ***THE GOLDEN RULES***

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2. Do be gentle. Don't hurt anyone.
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5. Do be honest. Don't cover up the truth.
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