



ST. PATRICK'S DE LA SALLE B.N.S.  
Coote's Lane, Kilkenny. R95 DX80  
Principal: 056-7761081  
[stpats.ias@eircom.net](mailto:stpats.ias@eircom.net)  
[www.stpatricksdelasalle.com](http://www.stpatricksdelasalle.com)  
Roll No. 17854D

## Code of Behaviour

1. In devising the code, consideration has been given to the particular needs and circumstances of this school. 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 positive techniques of motivation and encouragement are utilised by teachers.
3. The school places greater emphasis on rewards than on sanctions in the belief that this will, in the long run, give the best results.
4. The school 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 within the school and a high level of co-operation among staff and between staff, pupils and parents.
6. The 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 reduce boredom, lack of interest or lack of progress.
8. The overall responsibility for discipline within the school rests with the principal teacher. 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 teacher for serious breaches of discipline and for repeated incidents of minor misbehaviour.
9. The following strategies may be used, in any particular order, to show disapproval of unacceptable behaviour:
  - (a) Reasoning with the pupil
  - (b) Reprimand (including advice on how to improve)
  - (c) Temporary separation from peers, friends or others
  - (d) Loss of privileges/ incentives/rewards.



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- (e) Detention during a break or after school hours
- (f) Prescribing additional work
- (g) Referral to principal teacher
- (h) Communication with parents
- (i) 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)

Teachers shall keep a written record of all instances of serious misbehaviour as well as a record of improvements in the behaviour of disruptive pupils. Before resorting to serious sanctions, e.g. suspension, 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.

**10.** 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. For gross misbehaviour or repeated instances of serious misbehaviour suspension will be considered. Aggressive, threatening or violent behaviour towards other pupils, a staff member, invited guest or members of the school community will be regarded as serious or gross behaviour, depending on circumstances.

Where there are repeated instances of serious misbehaviour, 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 and principal teacher. If the parents do not give an undertaking that the pupil will behave in an acceptable manner in the future the pupil may have to be suspended for a temporary period. Suspension will be in accordance with the terms of Rule 130 (5) of the *Rules for National Schools*.

In the case of gross misbehaviour the board will authorise the chairperson or principal teacher to sanction an immediate suspension, pending a discussion of the matter with the parents.

Expulsion may be considered in an extreme case, in accordance with Rule 130 (6).

**11.** Every effort will be made to have an emotionally disturbed child referred for psychological assessment without delay. Help will be sought, also, from support services within the wider community.



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**12.** In formulating this code, the board of management considered a submission relating to the possible content of a code received from, and discussed with, the body representing the parents of the pupils attending the school.

All members of the school staff have been involved in planning the code.  
A copy of this code has been made available to all parents.

**13.** In the belief that the most effective schools tend 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.

### Children with Special Needs

All children are required to comply with the code of behaviour. However, the school recognises that children with special needs may require assistance in understanding certain rules. Specialised behaviour plans will be put in place in consultation with parents and the class teacher, special education teacher, and or principal will work closely with home to ensure that optimal support is given. Cognitive development will be taken into account at all times. Professional advice from psychological assessments will be invaluable.

The children in the class or school may be taught strategies to assist a pupil with special needs adhere to the rules and thus provide peer support. This will be done in a supportive and safe way, acknowledging and respecting the difference in all individuals.

**The code will be reviewed in October 2023.**

Ratified by the Board of Management on 11/10/2021.

Signed: [Signature] Chairperson

Date: 11/10/21