

NORTH BAY NATIONAL SCHOOL PROJECT

Positive Behaviour Policy for Junior & Senior Infants

May 1998

The aim of this policy is that the pupils will show respect for their peers, adult carers and the school environment. The emphasis is on remarking on and rewarding good behaviour. Good behaviour is understood to be that which makes the classroom and the school a comfortable and happy environment for all pupils.

In the more senior classes (first to Sixth), the pupils and teachers have devised a set of six classroom rules which will help ensure a happy learning environment.

In the Junior and Senior Infant classes the emphasis is on caring for themselves, for others and for belongings in the following ways:

1. Respect for themselves:

- Using their hands, feet etc. in a positive way (creative, helpful etc.)
- Hygiene
- Care for belongings
- Tidiness
- Being safe and careful on the stairs (e.g. using the bannisters)

2. Respect for their peers:

- Listening to others
- Taking turns at speaking in class (e.g. raising their hand)
- Playing in a way which doesn't hurt anyone or their feelings
- Not excluding others from games
- Allowing others to have their own opinions and to be different in all sorts of ways
- Moving carefully around the school so as not to hurt others

3. Respect for adults:

- Welcoming visitors in a suitable way
- Expressing gratitude to people who help them
- Recognising the authority of teacher helpers
- Making way for adults (on corridors, stairs etc.)

4. Respect for belongings:

- Taking care of their own belongings
- Being careful with the school's belongings
- Not interfering with other pupils' belongings
- Being tidy (not littering)
- Being careful not to damage trees etc. in the environment of the school, or when on outings

Good behaviour may be rewarded in many ways including verbal affirmation or praise, stickers, certificates praising achievements or a treat. Rewards are often based on group behaviour, but will also be given on individual achievement or effort. Sanctions are rarely necessary in the junior classes and, if needed, are in the form of short-term withdrawal from an activity to a "quiet area" for a child who is disrupting the class.

A lot of time is taken in the Infant classes making children aware of the reason for rules and for behaviour which make everyone comfortable and happy. Regular contact with parents is a great help in developing positive behaviours in the children and we welcome it.