

Coláiste Árainn Mhóir

Code of Behaviour Policy

Development of the Code of Behaviour:

This Code of Behaviour is prepared in accordance with the guidelines "Developing a Code of Behaviour: Guidelines for Schools" published by the National Educational Welfare Board (NEWB, 2008). The Code of Behaviour also conforms to legislation as required by Section 23 of the Education Welfare Act (2000). The Code of Behaviour is available on the college website. The Code of Behaviour needs to be read in association with the college "Anti-bullying", and "Child Protection" policies.

When parents enrol their child in Coláiste Árainn Mhóir they are agreeing to support the implementation of the Code of Behaviour and other policies in the college.

Aims:

The code aims at creating a caring, ordered environment based on respect and tolerance where each pupil can feel secure and confident. The code not only applies everywhere on the college premises but also applies at any college related activity whether on or off the premises such as college trips, swimming, sports activities, etc.

Strategies to promote Positive Behaviour:

- Ensuring that pupils are treated fairly, equally and firmly ;
- A quiet word or gesture to show approval;
- A visit to another member of staff or the Principal for commendation ;
- A word of praise in front of a group or class;
- Delegating some responsibility or privilege ;
- A mention to a parent – written or verbal;

The above list is not exhaustive and consists of examples only.

Pupils cannot remember long lists of rules. The expectations in this policy provide clear guidelines for members of our college community and pupils as to what type of behaviour is expected of pupils and adults within our college. College Rules are on display throughout the college. These rules synopsis for the pupils what is expected of them, in a language they understand. Pupils will be reminded of these rules regularly.

Expectations of Staff

College rules are devised with regard to the health, safety and welfare of all members of the college community. It is imperative that adults 'practise what they preach' in their interaction with pupils every day.

Staffs are expected to:

- support and implement the college's code of behaviour;
- be cognisant of their duty of care;
- to be familiar with and follow the college's policy on "Child Protection".
- create a safe, welcoming environment for each pupil;
- praise desirable behaviour;
- facilitate pupils to reach their full academic potential;
- recognise and provide for individual talents and differences among pupils
- be courteous, consistent and fair;
- keep opportunities for disruptive behaviour to a minimum;
- deal appropriately with misbehaviour;
- keep a record of serious misbehaviour or repeated instances of misbehaviour;
- listen, at appropriate times, to pupils' explanations for behaviour;
- provide support for colleagues;
- be familiar with the college's "Professional Conduct Code";
- communicate with parents and staff when necessary, always with courtesy and respect;
- provide reports on matters of concern.

Expectations of Parents

Parents are expected:

- to ensure the college has up-to-date phone numbers of family/friends to be contacted in case of an emergency.
- to arrange and ensure that a family member/friend is contactable and available to attend the college in the event of an emergency.
- to contact the principal if they are concerned about any issue relating to their child;
- communicate with staff when necessary, always with courtesy and respect and to model good behaviour in their relationship with teachers;
- to encourage pupils to have a sense of respect for themselves, for others, for their own property and that of others;
- to be familiar with the code of behaviour and other college policies and to support the implementation of these policies;
- to co-operate with teachers in instances where their child's behaviour is causing difficulties for others;
- to communicate to the college problems which may affect a child's behaviour.

Expectations of Pupils

- To speak Irish at all times during the course
- No pupil may enter licensed premises, and at no time may a student consume, be in possession of, be associated with or show signs of having consumed alcohol/drugs
- No pupil is to leave the guesthouse between the hours of 10pm and 9am
- Pupils are forbidden to accept or seek lifts in cars
- Pupils are forbidden to smoke
- College staff supervises all activities. Under no circumstances may any pupil go swimming, fishing, to the seaside or elsewhere, except when supervised.
- Pupils are not allowed to leave the college during the course except when authorised by the Príomhoide
- Pupils must treat all staff members, themselves and each other with due respect and courtesy;
- Pupils must never bully any person; Any behaviour that interferes with the rights of others to learn and to be safe is unacceptable. Fighting, rough play or any physical force is never allowed or tolerated.
- Pupils must never use bad language; Inappropriate language if used towards a teacher or anywhere within the college or while on a college activity is considered a breach of the code.
- The use of mobile phones are prohibited except from 6.30 p.m.to 7.00pm to allow parents to contact their children.Mobile phones are not allowed in bedrooms.. If a pupil is found with a mobile phone it will be confiscated.
- Pupils must respect the college building and property; If any deliberate damage is caused, the parent/guardian will be responsible for the cost of repair/replacement.
- Pupils must Always walk on the right hand side of the road when walking on the island roads.

When on college trips/tours, pupils are expected:

- to enter/leave the bus in an orderly manner;
- to arrive 15 minutes before departure time.
- to keep the college rules as listed above;
- not to bring mobile phones or electronic devices on college tours; Teachers will have mobile phones should any emergency arise
- to wear seatbelts provided
- to sit in their seats and avoid loudness that would distract the driver;
- to refrain from taking drinks or food onto to the bus
- to stay in their appointed groups at all times.