

meánscoil Gharman



MEÁNSCOIL GHARMAN – BEHAVIOUR POLICY

School Values and the Behaviour Policy:

The values of the school, as seen through its ethos, effect fundamentally the kind of conduct expected in the school. To clarify this, there are five basic principles that underpin the school's outlook in relation to conduct.

1. Irish is the language of the school and it is to be spoken at all times in the school, in the vicinity of the school, on school activities, while in school uniform and efforts will be made at all times to strengthen and inspire its use at all times.
2. All members of the school community will be treated with respect at all times.
3. Each member of the school community will try to give as much care, support and assistance as they can to others in the school community.
4. Each member of the school community will do their utmost to reach their potential and to utilise their talents.
5. Each individual will take part fully in the life of the school.

Other Policies and the Behaviour Policy:

The following Policies are linked to the Behaviour Policy:

- The Admissions Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Irish Language Policy
- SPHE Policy
- Substance- Abuse policy
- Health and Safety at Work Policy

Behaviour Guidelines:

The school wishes to operate in an atmosphere where there is respect for our language, our culture, for the individual, for the environment, for the community and for our religions. In order to strengthen this atmosphere, a behaviour policy which is positive, supportive and in which desired behaviour is valued and recognised will be instituted. Below is the kind of behaviour that we ask of students:

1. Respect for all in the school community.
2. Respect for the school's buildings, equipment and surroundings.
3. Respect for the personal property and equipment of others.
4. Make an honest effort in each class and subject.
5. Full participation in the life of the school.
6. Attendance and punctuality.
7. Cooperation with each other and with the school authorities at all times.
8. Mannerly and helpful at all times

Rules:

While the guidelines above cover most eventualities, some rules are nevertheless still required.

1. You must always do your best in school and at your homework
2. You must come to school each day and be on time for all of your classes
3. You must come to school ready for your classes – that means that you will have pens, books, copies and all special equipment, e.g. sports kit (P.E.), art equipment (Art), ingredients (Home Economics), white coat (Science subjects)
4. For PE class students must wear a white or navy t-shirt, navy tracksuit bottoms (no leggings or sports trousers with other colours or stripes are permitted). Students may wear shorts for PE and they are available to buy from the school.
5. You must always have respect for the other students at school.
6. You must always have respect for everyone who works in the school and follow the instructions of the teachers at school and at school events
7. You must come to school in the proper school uniform and be clean and neat. That means that you wear the grey school jumper, white shirt, red tie, dark grey socks or black tights, black shoes, school skirt, grey trousers and the specific school jacket. If you wish to wear hat, scarf or gloves, they must be grey or black **only**. Any other colours, or incorrect jacket will be confiscated and you will get them back when your parent comes to collect them.
8. **You must not leave school without the permission of the Principal, Vice-Principal or in their absence the teacher in charge during school hours.** If you need to leave school early, you will sign the record book in the office. **You may leave early only if you bring a note from a parent explaining the reason to the class teacher. Parents are requested to only take students out early if absolutely necessary.** Under no circumstances are students permitted to leave the area designated as school property.
9. If you are sick, or if there is another emergency, and/or if the school authority feels it is necessary for you to go home, the school will contact your parents. Students may not contact parents themselves.
10. If a student is absent from school a parent must inform the school by email/text/phone call.
11. You must have the Meánscoil Gharman dialann from the start of each school year. You must keep your school dialann **in good condition** and have it with you in each class to write in all of your homework, have it signed by your parents each week. **Your dialann may not be used for any other purpose. If a teacher comes across a dialann that is destroyed with graffiti, inappropriate comments or if it is in poor condition the student will be asked to purchase a new dialann.**
12. You must have a school locker and use it properly. This means that you keep it neat, and you go to it before the first class of the morning, during breaks and at the end of the day **only**.
13. If you need to leave class to work with another teacher or to go to sports practice or match, you must get permission from the teachers whose classes you will be missing and make sure that the work for that class is done.
14. Make-up, tattoos or body piercings (except ear piercing) are not allowed.
15. **If dying hair, natural colours only allowed (two or more colours not permitted)**
16. Illegal drugs, tobacco, alcohol or vapes or any dangerous substances must not be taken or be in possession of the students in school or at any school activities. Students will be suspended immediately if found vaping in school, selling vapes/illegal substances or if two or more students are found in a toilet cubicle. This also means that you must not be in the company of anyone who is breaking this rule.

17. Smart phones, personal music players, earphones electronic games consoles and the like are completely prohibited in school or on the school grounds. Earphones may be used during class time if the teachers permits. Students may bring a basic mobile phone to school (that cannot connect to the internet and that doesn't have a camera) if the parents wish them to have a phone in order to contact them after school. This phone must be switched off during school time.
18. Chewing gum is not allowed as it does a lot of damage to school furniture and is very difficult to remove.
19. If a student is driving to school they must have a full licence. A provisional licence is not acceptable. A parking space will be allocated to the student. Car keys must be left in the office on arrival and collected at the end of the day.

Rewards and Sanctions:

Students and classes that display desirable behaviour will be rewarded in the following ways:

- Award system in student journal
- student of the year scheme
- certificates (e.g. attendance certificate, punctuality certificate)
- public recognition (e.g. in assembly, newsletters etc)

It is our intention in Meánscoil Gharman to reward positive behaviour rather than punish bad behaviour whenever possible. However,

If a student undermines a basic behavioural guidelines, we have no option but to apply the following procedures.

The teacher will write a note in the teacher's journal (using points system) in the following cases:

- 1.If you come to class unprepared thus disrupting teaching and learning ie if you arrive late for class, without homework,without books/iPad.
2. If you disrupt the class in such a way that the teacher deems it necessary to record it in his/her journal.: for exemple if you are disrespectful, if you use bad language...
- 3.If you are chewing gum or are found littering the school.
4. In the case of prohibited use of the ipad; for example playing games, downloading/using apps that are not allowed
5. If you are not wearing the correct school uniform/sports gear.

You will get a bileog bhuí and detention at lunch time

- In the case of serious misbehaviour
- If you speak English
- If you reach 20 points on the points system

(a) If a student is found with a mobile phone or other deviced mentioned in rule 17 in the school building or grounds, on school trips or during school activities the phone/device will be confiscated and will only be returned to the parents at the end of the school term.

(b) If you are found speaking English regularly in any one year, your parents will be contacted and they will be asked to take you home immediately. The matter will be discussed at the next meeting of the Board of Management. The Board will decide the sanctions in this case and the student and parents could be asked to present themselves at a meeting of the Board.

(c) If you break the school rules continuously/are on detention regularly you will be placed on report and/or will have to appear before the Coiste Smachta.

If the behaviour of the student does not improve or in the event of a serious incident occurring which **endangers a student, a teacher or another member of the school community**; an incident occurs which damages the school's reputation; aggressive behaviour; sexual harassment; abuse; any other serious misbehaviour: The student will be sent to the Principal and depending on the seriousness of the incident the Principal may decide to:

(i) Ask the parents/guardian of the student to meet the Principal to discuss the matter.

AND/OR

(ii) Internal suspension

OR

(iii) Suspension at home for up to 3 days

OR

(iv) Bring the matter to the Board of Management. In cases, where no other option is suitable the student may be expelled from the school.

Note: Any sanction may be appealed to the Board of Management. In cases where a student is excluded from school an appeal may be made to the Department of Education under Section 29 of the Education Act. This appeal must be made within 42 days of the decision to exclude.

MEÁNSCOIL GHARMAN

Polasaí Iompair

Tá an polasaí thuasluaite léite go cúramach againn agus táimid sásta glacadh leis.
(We have read the above policy in its entirety and we are happy to accept it).

Síniú an Dalta _____

Dáta _____

Síniú Tuismitheora _____

Dáta