

SS. Michael & Peter Junior School

Hickey's Hill, Arklow, Co. Wicklow

Phone: 0402 39861 *Email:* office@ssmichaelandpeter.ie

Web: www.ssmichaelandpeter.ie

Principal: Ms. Lisa Dempsey *Deputy Principal:* Mrs Patricia Stokes *Roll No.:* 20470C

Code of Behaviour

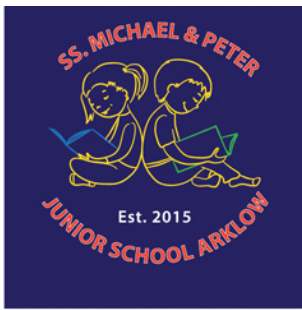
Aims:

- A. It is our aim to create an ordered and orderly environment in which pupils can feel secure and make progress in all aspects of their development.
- B. It is our aim that every effort will be made by staff to adopt positive techniques of motivation and encouragement, thus allowing the school to function in an orderly and safe way.

Principles

- A. In devising this code, consideration has been given to the particular needs and circumstances of a junior, co-ed school. We recognise the variety of differences that exist between children and the need to tolerate these differences.
- B. It is agreed that a high standard of behaviour requires a high level of cooperation between staff, parents and pupils.
- C. Every effort will be made to ensure the Code of Behaviour will be implemented in a reasonable, fair and consistent manner.

Ss. Michael and Peter Junior School is a nut/nut product and sesame/sesame seed product free zone.



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School Rules

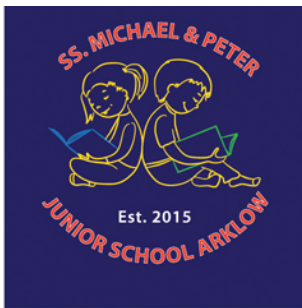
- A. The school day for all children in St. Peter's building will begin at 9.20 a.m. and finish at 3 p.m.

The school day for the Junior and Senior Infants based in St. Michael's building will begin at 9.30 a.m. and finish at 2.10 p.m.

The school day for 2nd class based in St. Michael's building will begin at 9.30 a.m. and finish at 3.10 p.m.

The B.O.M. cannot accept responsibility for children who arrive before their starting time or who remain on without permission after their finishing time.

- B. In the case of children travelling to school by bus, the school cannot accept responsibility for escorting them from the bus to the school and vice versa.
- C. If a child is being taken from the school before finishing time, either by a parent or someone nominated by a parent, please inform the teacher in advance.
- D. Any infectious diseases must be notified to the school immediately. In the event if a child needing medication during school hours, an indemnity form must be signed by the parent(s), The form is available from the school.
- E. Children should bring a note of explanation following all absences. The school is legally bound to inform Túsla of absences of 20 days or more.
- F. Aggressive behaviour, whether verbal, psychological, or physical is not allowed. Any behaviour which interferes with the rights of other children of the safety of children or staff to play or to learn is deemed unacceptable. Abusive language and gestures are banned.
- G. Because of the well established link between diet and behaviour, children should always bring a sensible, nutritional lunch to school. Crisps, fizzy drinks, chocolate, sweets or chewing gum are not permitted. The school would prefer if children did not bring their drink in cartons, a secure plastic bottle is more acceptable.



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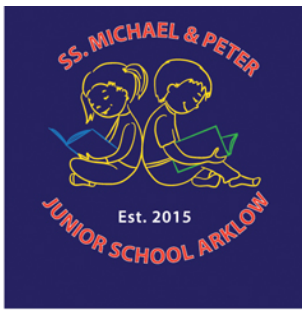
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- H. Because of a serious nut /nut product and sesame/sesame produce allergy these food stuffs are strictly banned in all buildings. No nuts/nut products. No sesame/sesame products.
- I. Pupils are required to show respect for each other and to teachers and visitors to school at all times. Pupils must respect all school property and keep the school environment clean and litter free. Ss. Michael and Peter Junior School is an environmentally friendly school.
- J. Homework is a requirement in all classes. We expect parents to supervise and take an active interest in the child's homework. (see Homework Policy)
- K. Parents should ensure that children are collected on time as the school cannot be responsible before any child's starting or finishing time. (See A above).
- L. There is a No Smoking policy at the school. This includes the school and the school grounds.
- M. Mobile phones for children are strictly forbidden.
- N. No dogs (except guide dogs) are allowed inside the school gates at any time.



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Procedures for Implementing Good Behaviour

Strategies - to encourage positive behaviour

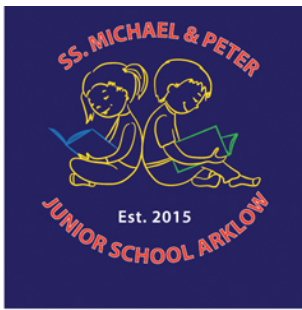
Praise may be given by any one of the following:

- ✓ A quiet word or gesture to show approval
- ✓ A comment in a pupils exercise book
- ✓ A visit to another member of staff or principal for commendation
- ✓ A word of praise in front of a group or class
- ✓ A system of merit marks, stickers, stars etc.
- ✓ Deleating some personal responsibility or provilege
- ✓ Communication to parent(s), written or verbal

Disapproval of unacceptable behaviour will be dealt with as follows:

- Reasoning with pupil
- Reprimand (advice on how to improve)
- Prescribing extra work
- Temporary seperation from peers and/loss of provilges
- Communication with parent(s), verbal or written
- Referral to Principal
- If all above fail to produce results, the matter may be referred to the Board of Management in accordance with Tusla guidelines for behaviour and discipline.
- Suspension
- Expulsion

The degree of misdemeanours i.e. minor or serious, will be judged by the teachers and/or principal based on a common approach with regard to the gravity and frequency of such misdemeanours.



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Examples of minor misdemeanours

Interrupting class work/arriving late regularly for school/running in the school building/leaving seat without permission/leaving litter around school/being discourteous or unmannerly/not completing homework without good reason/playing in areas of playground that are deemed out of bounds e.g. behind school, steps up to the hall and grass area in wet weather.

Examples of serious misdemeanours

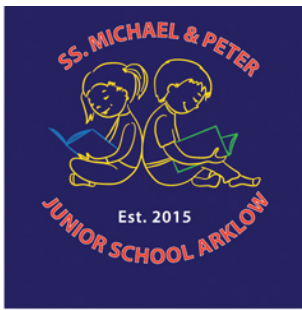
Constantly disruptive in class/stealing/damaging other pupils property/back answering a teacher/leaving school premises without appropriate permission/climbing or walking along school wall/using unacceptable language/bullying/deliberately injuring a fellow pupil/piggybacks, trains, play fighting, bashes or any other aggressive games are strictly forbidden.

Strategies for dealing with inappropriate behaviour:

The class teacher or teacher on yard duty, deals with the pupils using the strategies already previously outlined. If the behaviour continues, the class teacher will send for the parent(s) either by verbal or written communication. The teacher should meet the parent(s) after school by arrangement.

Procedures for dealing with serious misdemeanours

If the misdemeanour is deemed serious, the Parent(s) of the child are invited to a formal meeting with the Principal and class teacher, where the child's behaviour will be discussed and strategies for improvement worked out. A second meeting of this group will be agreed to review progress. If all the above strategies fail, the matter may be referred to the Board of Management, in accordance with Department guidelines.



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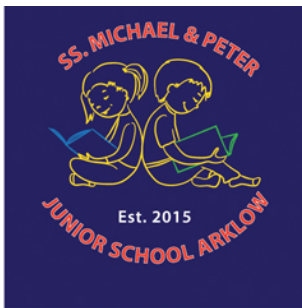
Procedures for dealing with gross misbehaviour

Assault of a member of staff or other pupil, repeated incidents of serious misbehaviour or where a child presents as a danger to himself or others. Every effort will be made to have an emotionally/behaviourally disturbed child referred for psychological assessment without delay. Help will also be sought from support systems within the wider community e.g. HSE, Lucena Clinic. Where there are repeated incidents of serious/gross misbehaviour the Chairperson of the B.O.M. will be informed and the parents will be requested in writing to attend the school and meet the Chairperson and Principal teacher. If such a meeting does not result in an improvement of the pupil's behaviour then the pupil may have to be suspended for a temporary period initially up to 3 days in accordance with Department of Education and Tusla guidelines.

In the event that a pupil, on returning to school continues to commit incidences of serious or gross misbehaviour, a special decision of the B.O.M. may be necessary to sanction suspension in excess of initial 3 days and increased at the discretion of the board.

The B.O.M. reserves the right to take such other reasonable measures as it considers appropriate to ensure good order and discipline are maintained within the school and that the safety of students and staff is secured. Where deemed appropriate expulsion may be considered following prior consent of then patron and all avenues have been exhausted, including consultation with Tusla officer (National Education and Welfare Act, Section 24)

Should the B.O.M. deem it necessary to suspend a student, the parents may appeal the suspension under Section 29 of the Education Act 1998. At the time when parents are formally notified of a suspension, they and the student should be notified of their right to appeal to the Secretary General, D.E.S. under Section 29 of this Act.



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Roles and Responsibilities

The main responsibility for coordinating and implementing this revised code of behaviour lies with the Principal of the school in her pivotal role as communicator with each agent of the school community.

In support of the Principal each member of the teaching staff will take responsibility for discipline and good behaviour in their own classroom and also on the yard when they are supervising.

While the Principal undertakes responsibility for implementation of the policy on a day to day basis the ultimate responsibility for discipline and decisions relating to suspension and expulsion in the school lies with the Board of Management (B.O.M.) as representative of the patron.

Ratification and Review

This policy will be reviewed by the Board of Management once in every school year.

This policy was reviewed and adopted by the School Board of Management in October 2017.

Signed: ___James Dunne_____ Board of Management

Date: ___18/10/17_____ Date of next review: Oct. 2018

Signed: ___Lisa Dempsey_____ Principal

Date: ___18/10/17_____