

Classroom Management Policy.

Original policy was drawn up in 2000/2001 school year at a School cluster planning meeting . Classroom Management was then identified as an area of priority for us due to multi class situation and restrictions re /space/ facilities/ resources.

The Policy was reviewed in .Dec.2017 and adapted as necessary. This policy was reviewed again in march 2019.

Rationaile- To outline the class structure within the school.It is our aim that our classrooms will be open .welcoming places where the child will be nurtured in a safe and caring environment ,allowing him/her to reach his/her potential.

Relationship to School Ethos – We feel this policy will enable us to meet the demands of the curriculum in a more focused and efficient manner while at all times reflecting the Catholic Ethos of the School.

Factors which have changed since 2001./

- We have a new school building /3 bright modern classrooms
- A G.P hall
- Our staff has increased from 3 class teachers /we have 2 additional teachers based in Ballinure School/ Learning Support teacher /resource Teacher for Travellers./ post of R.T.T ceased in 2011
- We have an office /staff room
- We have a learning support and resource room
- We have a S.N.A / 0.5 post- Sep.2017
- We have a hard surface play area with games marked out to encourage co-operative play.
- We have a green field area also for ball games/ football/ hurling/ soccer.

Class structure within the school.

- At present there are 2 mainstream class teachers .
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- We aim to keep the class sizes as evenly distributed as possible
- Infants – second ,classroom 1
- L.S.R – Classroom 2
- Third –sixth are in classroom 3..
- Teachers discuss class groupings at staff meeting towards end of the year.

Team Teaching-.We work as a team within the school ,we share ideas and discuss concerns informally throughout the day/ break/lunch bur formally at Planning Sessions. Croke Park Hours, Staff Meeting.

- Mr. Butler teaches history /geography to fifth and sixth
- Mrs Gleeson teaches Irish to first/second ,(córas fónaice , tus na leitheoireachta, nasc idir na snáithe go léir)

S.E.N teacher support the class teachers in their work.

- Pupils are withdrawn in groups or individually for learning support and we have also used the model of in class support eg P.A.T , Maths games ,problem solving strategies ,
- tin whistle instruction optional after school /a block of in school tin whistle instruction Oct- Dec.
- Dancing after school hours (varies) /some in school instruction a block of 4 - 6 weeks
- Aerobic Classes / a block of 4-6 weeks

Whole school Teaching

This would involve bringing the whole school together at various times for instruction/

- school choir practise
- Practise for Coirm
- Practise for nativity play
- School mass
- Guest speakers throughout the year eg garda, fire men,

Peer tutoring. We have tried this out on occasions and will continue to do so at stages throughout the year.

- Paired reading / infant room/ senior room
- Language dev/ infant room /senior room.
- Giving good example to others.

Routines ./ Positive environment.

- Each class has its own well established class routines/
- Each class has its own class rules and promotes positive behaviour.
- School rules govern all day to day behaviour .
- All staff work together to create a positive school environment which is conducive to learning.
- Classrooms are bright/ airy and well maintained.

Resources.

- We share a number of resources eg pe equipment is stored off the gp hall.
- We have a rota for use of the hall
- In case of a change we would always consult with the other teachers.
- We share some maths equipment/ science .again these are stored in common area/ in press / G.P Store room in hall /

- Music box/keyboard is in infant room.
- All class rooms have an interactive white board.
- There is one laptop per class room for instruction purposes

A library within the class./ in class./ school library also used for Q.R.T in Senior Room.

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- Sink/wet area in each class.
- Art supplies distributed to each class as required and shared where necessary
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- **Strategies for improvement.**
- As a staff we are committed to examining our current practise regularly and looking at ways of improving this,
- Staff meeting on first day of tem in September/at this meeting we decide on frequency of future meetings and dates,/
- We look at how best we can use individual teacher's expertise /talents in the school. / eg music/ maths/ S.E.S.E .
- To identify as a staff curricular area to focus on eg Oral Language/ reading development .and to work collectively on this.
- Inviting specialised tutors to the school from time to time eg art /coaches
- Looking at ways to compensate for packed curriculum eg science fair/ arts week .
- Review and revise this policy when necessary.

Signed _____Margaret Gleeson, Tom Butler March 20th 2019
For Ballinure School