**St. Ronan’s N.S. Deansrath**

****

Star Code of Behaviour (Explanatory Booklet 1st-6th Class)

# S.T.A.R. Code of Conduct



St. Ronan's is here to enable children, parents and teachers to work together in a secure environment where children can enjoy learning and achieve their full potential so they are ready for life and become confident, competent, responsible and happy members of their community.

Our school has a long tradition of parents and teachers working together for the good of the children. Our STAR code of behaviour is another stage in this process.

The system is based on a positive approach to discipline. Children are rewarded for being well behaved. We want them to “reach for the stars”. This puts the spotlight on good effort and behaviour and removes it from negative behaviour.

The rules and sanctions are printed and displayed in every classroom. They are based on the code of behaviour worked out by the working committee of parents and teachers.

The emphasis is on the positive. Children can earn up to three stars a day to fill their bronze, silver and gold booklets.

When rules are broken, children are penalised. The penalties are known as sanctions. There are six steps in the sanctions process which are outlined later.

Our belief is that by rewarding good behaviour and effort, a more positive learning atmosphere will be created. School will be a happier and more productive experience for our children. We can all work together to achieve the aims set out above.

# First – Sixth Class Rules

## Classroom Rules

1. I will be in class at 8:50am and be prepared for the day.

2. I will do as I am asked immediately.

3. I will raise my hand and wait quietly for attention.

4. I will listen attentively and in silence to the person who is speaking.

5. I will work quietly in my place and do my best.

6. I will stay quiet and be seated when teacher is out of the room.

7. I will do my homework.

8. I will be polite and respectful towards all pupils, staff and visitors.

9. I will be truthful and honest.

10. I will take responsibility for my own behaviour.

## Out of Class Rules

1. I must have permission to be out of class.
2. I will walk quietly within the school.
3. I will stay in my own yard and line up properly.
4. I will do as I am asked immediately by the supervising teacher/adult.
5. I will eat in the proper place at the proper time.
6. I understand that all name calling, fighting and all types of bullying are not acceptable. I will tell the adult on duty.
7. I will line up quietly outside my classroom/prefab before class.
8. I will always walk on the footpaths around the school. I will never walk through the car park. I will tell all adults to do the same.
9. I will treat the school building, school surrounds, furniture, equipment and books with respect.
10. I will represent my school in a positive manner on all school outings.

# What the rules mean

1. **Rule 1**: **I will be in class at 8:50am and be prepared for the day.**

* Being on time means being in at 8.50 am. If a child comes in late, he/she loses a star and is put on a step. (In exceptional cases, where it is an unusual occurrence and the child has a valid excuse we can overlook this, and the child neither loses star nor goes on a step.)
* Being prepared means wearing the full school uniform or navy tracksuit and non-marking runners.
* Girls can wear grey trousers if they wish.
* No jewellery or footwear which constitutes a danger to oneself or others may be worn.
* No make – up, nail varnish or false nails.
* Children must wear their school uniform on all trips outside the school premises. This could be either the full uniform or the tracksuit as decided by the class teacher. Children not in uniform will not be permitted to go on trips.
* Each child should have the appropriate copies, pencils, rulers etc. as required in class…… NO BORROWING
* Notes must be made in the journal following an absence, if a child is late and for permission to leave early.

**Rule 2:** **I will do as I am asked immediately.**

* Children should obey all teachers/adults in charge without answering back or a disrespectful attitude.
* Chewing gum is not allowed in school or on yard.

**Rule 6: I will stay quiet and be seated when teacher is out of the room.**

* Children may go to the toilet etc. when given permission by the supervising teacher.

**Rule 7: I will do my homework.**

* Homework must be fully completed, checked by an adult and signed – journal/reading.

# Rewards

If everything goes well, a child may get three star stamps per day. Once a child is awarded a star, it is not taken away. The stamps are awarded for three periods each day

* 8:50 to Break
* Break – Lunch
* Lunch – Home-time

There are three booklets in the course of the year, bronze, silver and gold. There are 150 stars in each booklet, 30 on each page.

* Rewards are given at the completion of each page.
* On completion of each booklet a medal is awarded. (Bronze, Silver, Gold)
* Some children will achieve bronze, silver and gold before the end of the school year. They will move on to the “Superstar Club” with special rewards.
* Children who have **earned** **10** stars during the week will have Golden Time on Fridays.

# Sanctions

Step 1: Verbal Warning.

Step 2: Yellow Card on child's table.

Step 3: “Stop and Think” table.

The child goes to the “Stop and Think” table and continues with the class work.

Step 4: Partner Class.

The child goes to the “partner class” with work to do and pencil, rubber etc. If the work is not done, it has to be done at home. All work must be finished and signed by a parent. A letter is sent home to inform the parent. It should be signed and returned the following day. The child then starts the new day with a clean sheet. **If it is not signed and returned, the child starts that day on step 5 and will not qualify for stars that day.**

Step 5 Internal Suspension

The child is sent to the principal and will be placed in another class to remain there for the rest of the day and until the parent comes to the school. A letter is sent home and the same procedure should be followed here as in step 4. The child only returns to his / her own class when a written undertaking to behave has been signed by the parent, the principal and the child. Where appropriate an apology to the offended party will be necessary.

Step 6: Suspension

In the unlikely event of a child continuing to misbehave while on step 5, he / she reaches step 6 and is suspended with work to do at home. He / she may return to class at the end of the period (one, two or three days) when the procedure outlined at step 5 has been followed. The child then begins the new day with a clean sheet.

**Note:**

* As in all schools a child may be suspended for a single act of gross misbehaviour.