

Code of Behaviour  
Athlone Mixed National School  
Church of Ireland

1. The Board of Management has ultimate responsibility for the Code of Behaviour in school.
2. Teachers should have a lively regard for the improvement and general welfare of their pupils, treat them with kindness combined with firmness and should aim at governing them through their affections and reason and not by harshness and severity.
3. The use of corporal punishment is forbidden.
4. Where the Board of Management deems it necessary to make provision in the code of discipline to deal with continuously disruptive pupils or a serious breach of discipline, by authorising the Chairperson or Principal to exclude pupils from school, the maximum period of exclusion shall be 3 school days. A special decision of the Board of Management is necessary to authorise a further period of exclusion up to a maximum of 10 school days to allow for consultation with pupils or pupils parents or guardians. In exceptional circumstances, the Board of Management may authorise a further period of exclusion in order to enable the matter to be reviewed. In some cases expulsion may be necessary which is provided for under the (Education Welfare Act) and Education Act Section 29 (1)(A).
5. No pupil shall be removed from the roll for breaches of discipline without the prior consent of the Patron and unless alternative arrangements are made for the enrolment of the pupil at another suitable school.
6. The (EWA) section 18 specifies that parents must notify the school in writing in the event of a child's absence.
7. Where a child is absent from the school at which he/she is registered, the parent of that child in accordance with Section 23 of the Welfare Act 2000 must notify the principal of the school of the reason(s) for the child's absence.

Appeals against decision of Board (Education Welfare Act 2000)

1. Where the Board-
  - a) Refuses, in accordance with paragraph (b) (ii) of subsection (10) of section 14, to register a child in the register maintained under that section.
  - b) Agrees to register the child in that register in accordance with paragraph (b) (i) of the said subsection (10).
  - c) Removes a child's name from that register in accordance with subsection (12) of that section, or
  - d) Requires the giving of an undertaking in accordance with paragraph (a) (ii) of the said subsection (12)

(hereafter in this section referred to as a 'decision'), it shall so inform the parent of the child concerned by notice in writing and the parent of the child concerned may appeal against the decision and for that purpose shall serve a notice of appeal on the minister within 21 days of his or her first receiving the first-mentioned notice.

2. A notice of appeal under subsection (1) shall be in writing and shall be in such form (if any) as may be prescribed by the Minister.
3. The Minister shall within 14 days of receiving a notice of appeal under subsection (1) appoint a committee to hear and determine an appeal under this section (hereafter in this section referred to as an 'appeal committee').
4. An appeal committee shall consist of such judge of the District Court as shall be nominated by the President of the District Court, such inspector and such other person (other than an officer of the Minister or of a Board) as may be appointed thereto by the Minister.
5. An appeal committee shall invite the parent of the child concerned and the authorised person who prepared and submitted the report under subsection (8) of section 14, to make submissions to it concerning the matters to which the appeal relates.
6. The appeal committee shall, having considered any submissions made to it pursuant to subsection (5) and the report referred to in that subsection-

- a) Affirm the decision of the Board.
  - b) Require the Board to register the child concerned in the register maintained under section 14, or
  - c) Require the Board to register the child concerned in the said register subject to the parent of the parent of the child undertaking to comply with such requirements as the appeal committee considers appropriate.
7. The board shall comply with a requirement of an appeal committee under subsection (6).

Ratified by ..... Chairperson. Date .....

----- CUT AND RETURN TO SCHOOL -----

**I have read the code of behaviour Policy and taken notice of its contents.**

*Name of the child:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Signed:* \_\_\_\_\_  
*Parents/Guardians*

*Date:* \_\_\_\_\_