



Coláiste Lú



Coláiste Chú Chulainn
Cúram. Forbairt. Feabhas.

Code of Behaviour

Coláiste Chú Chulainn & Coláiste Lú, Dundalk, Co. Louth

Code of Behaviour

1. Introduction

1.1. Coláiste Chú Chulainn

Coláiste Chú Chulainn is a multi-denominational and co-educational post-primary school under the patronage of Louth and Meath Education and Training Board. As such, it operates within the regulations laid down by the Department of Education and Skills and follows the curricular programmes prescribed. This Code of Behaviour was developed in accordance with the guidelines developed by the NEWB/TUSLA, provisions of the Education Act (1998), the Education Welfare Act (2000), the Equal Status Act (2000) and the Education of Persons with Special Needs Act (2004).

1.2. Coláiste Lú

Is iar-bhunscoil Ghaeilge í Coláiste Lú atá il-sainchreidmheach agus comhoideachasúil, a fheidhmíonn faoi phátrúnacht an Bhoird Oideachais agus Oiliúna Lú agus na Mí. Mar iar-bhunscoil, oibríonn sí laistigh de na rialacháin atá leagtha síos ag an Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna agus leanann sí na cláir churaclaim atá forordaithe.

Forbraíodh an cód iompair seo i gcomhréir na riachtanais ón Acht Oideachais (Leas), 2000 agus na treoirlínte iompraíochta a bhí eisiithe ag an NEWB/TUSLA. Ghlac an Bord Bainistíochta Choláiste Lú leis an cód iompair na scoile agus laistigh de na Treoirlínte um chosaint leanaí de réir chomhthéacs na Roinne Oideachais agus Scileanna (ROS).

2. Vision/Fís

2.1. Coláiste Chú Chulainn

The educational vision for Coláiste Chú Chulainn is outlined below in the form of a 10 point plan. Our new school will be co-educational, multi-denominational, student centred, accountable to its community and, further, will strive to provide the following:

- Excellence in teaching and learning, including e-learning.
- Opportunities for students to be the best they can be, both inside and outside the classroom.
- Inclusion for all students of all abilities.
- Respectful, safe and happy positive learning environment.
- Broad and balanced curriculum
- High level of parental involvement and participation.
- Democratic and inclusive management structure.
- Targeted student support.
- State of the art building and teaching resources.
- Community focal point.

2.2. Coláiste Lú

Tá fíís oideachasúil Choláiste Lú bunaithe ar mhana na scoile: Cúram. Forbairt. Feabhas. agus tá sé leagtha amach anseo i bhfoirm na deich pointe. Is iar-bhunscoil muid atá il-sainchreidmheach, comhoideachasúil, dalталárnach, freagrach as an phobal agus, ina theannta leis sin, déanfaimid ár seacht ndícheall na rudaí seo a leanas a chur ar fáil:

- Sármhaitheas i dteagasc agus i bhfoghlaim, ríomhfhoghlaim ina measc.
- Deiseanna a chruthú do na daltaí ionas gur féidir leo a bheith is fearr agus is féidir leo, laistigh agus lasmuigh den seomra ranga.
- Cuimsiú do gach dalta ar gach leibhéal cumais.
- Timpeallacht foghlamtha atá dearfach, sábháilte agus sona ina bhfuil meas curtha chun cinn.
- Curaclam agus leathan agus cothrom.
- Baint shuntasach agus leibhéal ard rannpháirtíocht ag tuismitheoirí.
- Struchtúr bainistíochta atá daonlathach agus cuimsitheach.
- Tacaíocht spriocdhírithé do na daltaí.
- Scoth na foirgnimh agus áiseanna teagaisc.
- Pointe fócasach ag croílár an phobail.

3. School Ethos

Development of the student is central to every aspect of school life. We will strive to nurture students' holistic development, to cultivate a strong work ethic and to help our students develop as responsible, able, caring young people.

Our school motto is **Cúram. Forbairt. Feabhas. – Care. Development. Excellence.**

As part of this philosophy, we feel as a school community, that it is our duty to cherish the students in our care, to look after them and to provide a healthy and safe environment for them, an environment which will support them in their strides to achieve academic excellence and an environment that will help them to develop as students and as young men and women. The principal aim of this Code of Behaviour is to guide the school community as they work to create this supportive environment.

As we implement the Code, we, as a staff, will do our best to support students' rights, to inform and educate students as to their responsibilities, to promote students' welfare and to show a good example.

4. Rationale & Aim

Everybody in Coláiste Chúlainn & Colaiste Lú is entitled to learn and work in a safe and healthy environment. We endeavour to provide an environment where **Cúram** (Care), **Forbairt** (Development) and **Feabhas** (Excellence) can be nurtured. It is the responsibility of all members of our school community to create this environment.

The code of behaviour is the means by which all members of the school community understand the expectations and responsibilities we share in fulfilling the school's mission.

Its aim is to:

- outline expected behaviour so that all members of the school community can work in a safe and orderly environment
- Identify positive behaviours which support student development and the means by which we can acknowledge and celebrate this behaviour
- outline the sanctions should student behaviours not reach the desired standards

5. Rights & Responsibilities

Students attending Coláiste Chú Chulainn and Coláiste Lú are entitled to expect:

1. An atmosphere of mutual respect which enables all students to thrive.
2. A clean, safe and organised learning environment.
3. A learning environment free from interference or bullying.

It is the responsibility of all members of the school community to:

1. demonstrate respect for themselves, for all other members of the school community and for the school environment.
2. create and maintain a safe teaching and learning environment.
3. promote good behaviour, self-discipline and pride in Coláiste Chú Chulainn & Coláiste Lú

5. What is excellence in Coláiste Chú Chulainn & Coláiste Lú?

The qualities which were identified as representing Feabhas/Excellence in our students are:

Caring	Respectful	Committed to learning
Co-operative	Engaged	Responsible
Resilient	Punctual	Organised
Hard-working	Motivated	

Examples of the behaviours and habits of students who are striving for and reaching Feabhas/Excellence are:

- works independently
- is helpful and considerate to others
- perseveres with difficult and challenging tasks
- displays initiative and takes responsibility for their own learning and progress
- works well with classmates and in groups
- respectful to staff and other students
- asks questions
- shows a willingness to try or to take on a challenge
- engages with a task until completion
- maintains focus
- organised with regards to time and equipment

- consistent in their application and effort
- arrives to school/class on time; ready to learn
- good at listening
- reliable
- accepts and implements feedback
- adaptable to change

6. Expectations and Standards of Acceptable Behaviour

Every member of the school community show respect for themselves, for each other and for the school environment. Outlined below are the expectations of students in Coláiste Chú Chulainn & Coláiste Lú.

i. Attendance and Punctuality

Students are expected to:

- attend every class. Students may not leave the class unless doing so with prior permission from the class teacher.
- be on time for school and each class and have their required materials and equipment with them. The school day is from 8:49am to 3:43pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and from 8:49am – 1:12pm on Wednesday.
- be dressed in the school uniform.
- provide an explanatory note in his/her school journal when arriving late or returning from an absence – dated, written and signed by parent(s)/guardian(s)

ii. Academic Development

Students are expected to:

- to listen in class and do their best in class.
- have their school journal with them at all times in school.
- give adequate time and effort to your homework. Complete it and present it neatly.
- have their homework in order and

iii. Behaviour in Class

Students are expected to:

- follow teacher/staff instruction in class.
- enter classrooms in an orderly manner, take their assigned seats and take out their equipment in preparation for class.
- Follow the permitted to speak when the teacher is speaking.

iv. Behaviour in the Corridors, at the Lockers and at Lunchtime

Students are expected to:

- transit around the school campus in a calm and orderly manner.

- Access lockers before class begins in the morning, at break-time, at lunchtime and at the end of the school day. Students to use lockers for the benefit of organisation for class and lockers to be kept in good working order.
- follow teacher/staff instruction in corridors and yard.
- remain on the school grounds at lunchtimes. Students may take lunch with them or purchase lunch in the school canteen.
- leave canteen, corridors and yard free from litter.
- report any incidents to a member of staff.
- remain in permitted zones on the school campus.

v. Behaviour Outside of School

Students are expected to:

- adhere to the values and aims of the Code of Behaviour when they are coming to/returning from school each day.
- respect all members of the local community.
- be mannerly when travelling on the bus and at the bus stop.
- adhere to the Code of Behaviour when engaged in school activities/on school trips.

vi. Personal Presentation

Students are expected to:

- dress in a neat and tidy fashion and must wear correct school uniform. A description of the school uniform is provided in the school journal.
- Follow the guidelines on make-up and jewellery:
 - Students are not permitted to wear make-up
 - With respect to jewellery, only one discreet ear-ring is permitted in each ear. Two discreet rings may be worn on the hands.
 - Chains, necklaces, bracelets and facial jewellery are not permitted for safety reasons.

vii. Personal Belongings and Electronic Devices

Students are expected to:

- Students are responsible for their own belongings. We advise that no valuables be brought to school.
- If valuables are brought to school, they must remain with the owner at all times.
- The use of mobile phones is not permitted during the school day.
- The office phone can be used by students in case of emergency (with permission from a member of staff).
- All electronic recording is forbidden on the school campus and at school events unless sanctioned by a teacher, Meantóir or Stiúrthóir.

All students and their parents/guardians must sign a contract before taking up a place in Coláiste Chú Chulainn (FORM CB1 – Appendix 2) or Coláiste Lú (FORM CL1 – Appendix 3).

7. Positive behaviour and rewards

In Coláiste Chúlainn & Colaiste Lú the holistic development and **Curam** of students is the central focus of our work. Teachers will strive to nurture students 'holistic development' and cultivate a strong work ethic and help our students to develop into strong, independent and caring young adults. We believe it is important to recognise and reward good behaviour to promote it within our school.

Rewards that we use to promote positive behaviour includes:

- Verbal praise for student in private/in class/at assembly
- Nótaí maithe in the Dialann
- Stamps/Stickers in the Dialann
- Phone call home to parents
- Positive Postcard posted to parents
- In-class acknowledgements, raffles, competitions
- Small prizes throughout the year
- Feedback at Parent-Teacher-Student meetings
- Reward card – Cárta Corcra presented at Assemblies
- Subject awards – e.g. Tíreolaí na Míosa
- Attendance awards
- Scolairí na Míosa Awards (Student of the Month Awards)
- Whole class reward Inter-class competition (Comórtas na nótaí maithe)
- Display of students work in classrooms, on the website and on corridors
- Gradaim an Choláiste -Prize giving ceremony in May every year. Awards for attendance, good behaviour, hard work, citizenship, sporting and cultural activities are presented
- Pictures on walls of school naming the Award Winning Students

8. Sanctions

In the event that a student exhibits negative behaviour or does not meet the expectations of the code of behaviour, a teacher will initially engage with the student to resolve the issue using the ladder of referral with the aim of restoring the student to positive behaviour in class and in school (see Appendix 1). The aim of this is to guide the student where needed and to assist the student in recognising the effect of their actions on others.

If no positive outcome can be achieved from the restorative practice approach to dealing with the issues, a sanction may be deemed necessary. A teacher can use the disciplinary measures outlined in the Ladder of Referral. The purpose of the sanction is to bring about a change in negative behaviour by helping students to recognise that a certain behaviour is not acceptable. Sanctions can also help students to take responsibility for their actions.

The sanctions available to teachers include:

- Speaking with the student one-on-one
- Extra written work given
- Move position in class
- Moved to another class with work
- Speak to student after class
- Note written in journal to be signed by parent/guardian
- Phone call home to parent/guardian
- Confiscation of electronic devices/phone
- Letter home
- Put “on report”
- Self-evaluation form
- Lunchtime reflection
- After-school reflection
- Meeting with student and Caomhnóir/Meantóir/Deputy/Principal
- Clean-up duty
- Interview student
- Meeting with student and parent
- Suspension
- Referral to Board of Management

This list is not exhaustive and teachers may feel a different sanction may have a better impact in dealing with a particular situation or student.

Guidance on which sanctions are used in relation to the type of infringement is outlined in the Ladder of Referral (Appendix 1).

The LMETB suspension and expulsion policy and procedures are detailed in Appendix 3.

Report system

A report system is used as a means of providing students with ongoing feedback on targets to support academic progress, organisation and behavioural challenges. There are three different levels of reports in operation.

- i. **Level one - Yellow Forbairt card.** Can be given by Caomhnóir or Meantóir, for disorganisation, poor academic progress, lack of homework, disorganisation, lateness and poor uniform. Students will be placed on this report for one week following a school detention to ensure they are working towards feabhas. This is a first stage report which aims to resolve low lying issues. The Caomhnóir/Meantóir will work closely with the student to resolve the issues. The booklet contains strategies to restore good practice and promote *Feabhas*. This must be signed by parents and checked by Caomhnóirí each day. This report must be returned to the Meantóir and placed in the student file upon completion.
- ii. **Level two – Blue Report.** Following 2 Yellow reports or an incident of a more serious nature a student may be placed on a Blue report; this report is for persistent lack of

homework, poor effort in class, poor behaviour inside and outside class or behavioural issues. Meantóir can only place students on this report. Parents and Meantóir sign it each day. Students fill out restorative questions as to why they are on report. They set their aims for the week and work towards returning to good practice. The report is restorative in nature and contains a section of reflection at the end of the week. This report must be returned to the Meantóir and placed in the student file upon completion. Failure to complete the report will result in the student having to complete another until 5 full days have been completed to a satisfactory level.

- iii. **Level three - Orange report.** Students are placed on this report following an internal suspension or following several blue reports or a serious breach of school rules. This must be signed by the parents and shown to the Meantóir/Deputy Principal/Principal each day.

After two Orange reports it is deemed that the student has failed to adhere to the school's code of conduct and therefore the matter will be referred to the Deputy Principal/Principal for further consideration.

After three Orange reports following suspensions, further incidents may result in a student being referred to the Discipline Board which will make a report to the Principal on the matter.

9. Bullying

Bullying and threatening behaviour is forbidden at Coláiste Chú Chlainn & Colaiste Lú. If a student is being bullied or is aware of other students who are being bullied he/she should bring the matter to the attention of a teacher. The matter is initially dealt with in line with procedures outlined in the Anti-Bullying policy. However, the sanctions outlined in the code of behaviour may be applied in relation to a bullying case.

A bullying incident may be reported under Child Protection Procedures if it is deemed necessary.

10. Monitoring the implementation of the policy

The implementation of the policy shall be monitored by the Principal.

The Board of Management will receive regular updates on the implementation of the Code of Behaviour from the Principal.

11. Reviewing and evaluating the policy

The code should be reviewed and evaluated at certain pre-determined times and as necessary.

The Code of Behaviour and the behaviours and sanctions listed should not be regarded as exhaustive and may be adapted or updated between review processes.

On-going review and evaluation should take cognisance of changing information or guidelines (e.g. from the Department of Education and Skills or NEWB), legislation and feedback from parents/guardians, students, school staff and others. The code should be revised as necessary in the light of such review and evaluation and within the framework of school planning

Policy ratification

Policy:	Code of Behaviour
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This policy has been communicated to our school community of School Management, Staff, Students, Parents and Guardians, both directly and/or through appointed representatives.

The policy has been ratified by the Board of Management of Coláiste Chú Chulainn & Coláiste Lú, properly convened, at its meeting of

Date: 7th November

