

Code of Discipline

We at St. Joseph of Cluny School regard our school as a community of which mutual respect, co-operation and natural justice are integral features. Our Behaviour and Discipline Code is therefore based on consideration for others, on the common good and on training in self-discipline. We require the support of parents in upholding our Code.

- The application of sanctions will be consistent with fairness.
- Teachers and other school authorities are agreed that the application of sanctions will take into account the right of students to a fair hearing.
- That a student has the right, having made sufficient amends, to the restoration of her good name.
- That the school ethos is a positive one dedicated to the encouragement, support and reward of pupils and their efforts. Sanctions however are seen as a necessary part of the development of a pupil's self-discipline and sense of personal responsibility.
- In this spirit, misbehaviour should automatically involve an apology to the teacher, student or any other individual concerned.

1. Uniform – The appointed uniform, including footwear must be worn to and from school and during school hours. A neat and tidy appearance is expected at all times. Jewellery is limited to one ring, one pair of stud earrings, and a watch. No facial, tooth or tongue studs are tolerated. No make-up is permitted. Hair colour and style must be natural. In the interest of safety, no jewellery may be worn at P.E., or rings at practical classes.

2. Property – All books, garments, sportswear, etc. should be clearly and indelibly labelled and kept in student locker. Large sums of money or valuables should not be brought to school. THE SCHOOL CANNOT ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOSS OR THEFT. Lockers with padlocks are provided for each student they and must be kept locked at all times.

3. School Work/Homework – Students are expected to participate fully in class and to submit completed homework at the proper time. A student's main objective is to reach their highest possible academic standard and thus make the most of their opportunities in school. Homework assignments should be completed on time to a standard consistent with the student's abilities and in accordance with the directions of the teacher. Please ref: 'Homework Policy'.

4. Good Manners – All members of the school community should be treated with courtesy and respect. Insulting behaviour to members of staff or persistent insubordination will be liable to suspension.

5. Bullying – Every pupil has the right to an education free of fear and intimidation to allow a pupil a right to enjoy her learning and leisure time. If someone is being treated badly, a student should take action. Watching and doing nothing can suggest support for the bully. Students should not tolerate bullies. The school has in place an 'Anti Bullying Policy'. Use should be made of the ABC Committee or any of the many support systems in the school. Please ref: 'Anti Bullying Policy'

6. Care of Buildings and Property – All students are asked to keep the premises in good condition. Chewing gum, Tipp-Ex and other liquid correcting fluids, laser pens, large markers, all aerosols and personal music systems are forbidden. Inappropriate items (see above list) which are brought into school will be confiscated and Parents will be asked to contact the Year Head, during school hours. Students who willfully damage school or personal property or who cause damage as a result of inappropriate behaviour will have to make full restitution.

7. Smoking, anywhere or anytime, in school uniform is forbidden.

8. Disciplinary Measures

- Firm action will be taken with pupils who are disruptive in class, ill mannered or whose behaviour is unacceptable in this school.
- Any pupil under the influence of, or in possession of, alcohol in the school or on school related activities will merit immediate suspension.

- The possession, sale or use of drugs by any student of the school both within or outside the school is a most serious breach of discipline. The matter will be referred to the Gardaí and the Board of Management.
- The sanctions for the above breaches of discipline are explained over.

9. Litter – Bins should be used for litter. Littering is discourteous to others, especially the cleaning staff. Please see the Green School Policy on recycling.

10. Detention – Detention is held on Friday after school. If a student is nominated for Friday Detention her attendance there is compulsory.

11. Use of Mobiles Phones & Cameras

- The girls are asked to 'power off' and lock their mobile 'phones away in their lockers while they are in the school building and environs during school hours. The girls may use their mobiles only when they have left the school building at the end of the school day.
- All contact with your daughters during the day must come through the office.
- The sanctions for unauthorised use of a mobile phone during the school day or carrying it or having it in a school bag is confiscation for a two-week period. The phone must then be collected by a Parent or Guardian.
- The use of cameras and camera phones to take unauthorised photographs/video footage with the intention of embarrassing or causing distress to any school member is strictly forbidden and is referred to, in detail, in the 'Anti-Bullying Policy'. See also the 'Computer and Internet Acceptable Use Policy'