



SCOIL BHRÍDE BUACHAILLÍ
BREAKTIME SUPERVISION POLICY

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1. Introduction

The following policy was ratified by the Board of Management, in accordance with Circular 29/03 “*Supervision for Mid-Morning and Lunchtime Breaks*” (Department of Education and Science (DES)) and Circular 33/2013 “*Public Service Stability Agreement 2013 – 2016 (Haddington Road Agreement). Supervision Scheme in Primary Schools*” (DES, June 2013).

2. Characteristic Spirit & General Objectives of the School

Scoil Bhríde Buachaillí is a Catholic all-boys’ primary school situated in Blanchardstown Parish, Dublin 15 with a Catholic ethos under the Patronage of the Archbishop of Dublin.

In the context of a Catholic primary school, ‘Catholic Ethos’ refers to the ethos and characteristic spirit of the Roman Catholic Church, which aims to promote:

- ✓ the full and harmonious development of all aspects of the person of the student, including the intellectual, physical, cultural, moral and spiritual aspects
- ✓ a living relationship with God and with other people
- ✓ a philosophy of life inspired by belief in God and in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus and
- ✓ the formation of the students in the Catholic faith and
- ✓ provide religious education for the pupils in accordance with the doctrines, practices and traditions of the Roman Catholic Church, and/or such ethos and/or characteristic spirit as may be determined or interpreted from time to time by the Irish Episcopal Conference.

In accordance with S. 15 (2) (b) of the Education Act, 1998 the Board of Management of Scoil Bhríde Buachaillí shall uphold, and be accountable to the Patron for so upholding, the characteristic spirit of the school as determined by the cultural, educational, moral, religious, social, linguistic and spiritual values and traditions which inform and are characteristic of the objectives and conduct of the school.

This policy reinforces the characteristic spirit and general objectives of Scoil Bhríde Buachaillí which supports and advocates providing a happy, safe, learning environment for each member of the school community.

3. Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of this policy are to provide clearly defined guidelines and procedures for the supervision and care of the pupils in Scoil Bhríde Buachaillí at mid-morning and lunchtime breaks to ensure their safety and welfare during break times.

4. Supervision Requirement

Supervision will be compulsory for all teachers. Each teacher will be required to be available to provide 43 hours supervision per annum. Hours provided under the revised supervision scheme (June 2013) will, in addition to usage under the existing scheme, be used to cover absences which arise for which no substitute cover is available.

5. Organisation of Supervision

Supervision will be organised on a rota basis. Copies of the monthly roster will be displayed in the Staff Room, in the First Aid Room (Room 0.08), in the Principal’s office and will be circulated to all staff via Aladdin before Lón Beag on the first school day of each month. When not rostered, the Principal will supervise in a roaming capacity at break times.

In the case of medium to long-term teacher absences, e.g. study leave, maternity leave, extended periods of sickness, or other exceptional circumstances, a substitute teacher will carry out the absent teacher’s supervision duties. For health and safety reasons, particularly during pregnancy, teachers may make a request to carry out some or all of their supervision duties over a shorter period of the school year and/or to substitute additional indoor supervision duties (e.g. wet morning and wet day supervision) for outdoor duties. Any such request should be made to the Principal.

6. Responsibilities of Teachers on Supervision Duty

At breaktimes, the teacher on duty will:

- ✓ present for duty (whether indoor or outdoor) on time, i.e. 10.45 a.m. at mid-morning break and 12.35 p.m. at lunchtime break;
- ✓ monitor the designated area carefully, observing optimum concentration, i.e. refrain from entering lengthy conversation with a colleague or pupil alike;
- ✓ follow the rules and guidelines as set out in the Code of Behaviour regarding the behaviour of pupils and the recording of any breaches of discipline and subsequent sanctions;
- ✓ only permit a pupil to leave the playground when First Aid attention or toilet facilities are needed. Any pupil sent to the First Aid room (Room 0.08) as a result of injury or to use the toilet will be accompanied by an adult or another pupil;
- ✓ record any and all details of serious incidents/injuries in the Incident Book in the secretary's office;
- ✓ remain on active supervision duty until the class teacher (or the teacher of the class next door) returns to assume responsibility.

7. Responsibilities of SNAs on Supervision Duty

At breaktimes, the SNA will:

- ✓ present for duty (whether indoor or outdoor) on time, i.e. 10.45 a.m. at mid-morning break and 12.35 p.m. at lunchtime break;
- ✓ monitor the pupil(s) in his/her care carefully, observing optimum concentration, i.e. refrain from entering lengthy conversation with a colleague or other pupil(s) alike;
- ✓ follow the rules and guidelines as set out in the Code of Behaviour regarding the behaviour of all pupils, alerting the teacher on duty to serious concerns;
- ✓ inform the teacher on duty where a pupil needs to leave the playground when First Aid attention or toilet facilities are needed. Any pupil sent to the First Aid room (Room 0.08) as a result of injury or to use the toilet will be accompanied by an adult or another child.

8. Responsibilities of Class Teachers who are not on Supervision Duty

At breaktimes, the class teacher will:

- ✓ remain on supervision of their class(es) until the teacher on duty presents for supervision duty;
- ✓ return to their class(es) promptly at the end of breaktime to relieve the teacher on supervision duty.

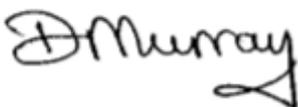
9. Responsibilities of Teacher on First Aid Duty

The teacher on First Aid Duty will:

- ✓ present for duty on time, i.e. 10.45 a.m. at Lón Beag and 12.35 p.m. at LÓN MÓR;
- ✓ administer First Aid to any pupil reporting to the First Aid room (wearing gloves when doing so);
- ✓ record all relevant details for each pupil reporting to the First Aid room;
- ✓ provide each pupil presenting for First Aid with a note for his parent/guardian;
- ✓ inform the Secretary about any phone calls to parents/guardians which need to be made at the end of each break.

10. Ratification and Review

This policy was ratified by the Board of Management on the 25th of March 2019, reviewed on the date below and communicated to staff and parents thereafter. It is applicable from the date below and subject to regular review by the Board of Management. Revised copies/updates of the policy are available online and issued in hard copy on request to parents/guardians.



Signed:

Declan Murray (Chairperson, Board of Management)

Date: 24th March 2022