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*Ardscoil Phádraig*

**GRANARD, CO. LONGFORD, N39RR79.**

**Tel: (043) 6686209 / 6686503 Fax: (043) 6687076 Email:** [**admin.apg@lwetb.ie**](mailto:admin.apg@lwetb.ie)

**ARDSCOIL PHÁDRAIG**

**After-School Detention Policy**

***2021 - 2022***

**Mission Statement:**

In **Ardscoil Phádraig** our mission aims to create a pleasant, caring and secure environment in which the individual student is able to develop his or her full potential through a spirit of partnership with all the stakeholders in education. We strive to develop and maintain a safe, supportive and caring school which seeks to provide the best opportunities for everyone to develop his or her potential.

**Rationale:**

Detention is one of the educational measures employed by **Ardscoil Phádraig** to ensure discipline and the Wellbeing of students and staff. In the school’s Code of Positive Behaviour, Detention is utilised as a response to student misbehaviour. This is an intervention to ensure that learning and teaching can take precedence within the school. The rationale and aims of this policy also apply to the pre-school; lunchtime and after-school Detentions that individual teachers run within the school in their own time.

**Aims of the After-School Detention Policy:**

The overall aims of the After-School Detention policy are to:

* To contribute to the creation of an atmosphere, which is conducive to high-quality learning and teaching by promoting and encouraging mutual respect among all partners in our community.
* To contribute to creation of effective procedures which facilitates the smooth running of the school and which helps meet the demands and requirements of current legislation.
* Contribute to providing the behavioural structures to ensure the standards of behaviour that shall be observed by each student attending the school.
* Ensure an adequate behavioural intervention to be utilised when a student fails or refuses to observe the standards expected within the school.
* Ensure an adequate behavioural intervention that reduces the likelihood of a student being externally suspended from the school.
* To promote good behaviour and self-discipline.

**Offences that can lead to After-School Detention:**

Offences that can lead to an After-School Detention are persistent breaches of the schools Code of Positive Behaviour, or one-off breaches deemed serious enough to warrant an After-School Detention at the discretion of the school management team.

Examples of misbehaviour that can lead to an After-School Detention are as follows:

* Offensive or dangerous behaviour.
* Persistent poor classroom and/or corridor behaviour.
* Persistent poor morning and/or between-classes punctuality.
* Persistent non-compliance with school uniform.
* Persistent failure to complete classwork and/or homework.
* Persistent failure to have books and/or materials for class.
* Failure to return to school after lunch without a pre-arranged agreement with the relevant Year Head / Deputy Principal and/or Principal.
* Returning to school late after-lunch.
* Leaving the school grounds without permission and/or mitching class.
* Refusal to carry out instructions given by any staff member.

The above list is not exhaustive. It is the discretion of the school management team to decide whether an offence warrants an After-School Detention.

**Procedures for After-School Detention:**

* All students will be assigned an After-School Detention on a subsequent school day to the day on which they are notified of the Detention.
* The student will be provided with an After-School Detention slip and/or note in their school journal to show their parents/guardians.
* A phone-call will be made or a text will be sent to their parents/guardians alerting them to the After-School Detention and notifying them that all details have been provided to their child.
* After-School Detention takes place every Friday from 1.15 pm – 2.15 pm.
* Parents/Guardians must make the necessary arrangements for transport home after detention.
* If a student fails to present for After-School Detention without a prior, agreed arrangement with the relevant Year Head / Deputy Principal and/or Principal then the sanction will be doubled.
* If the student subsequently fails to present for After-School Detention, then the student will be suspended, and the parents will be asked to arrange a meeting with the Year Head to discuss this issue to ensure there is no repeat of this occurrence in the future.

**Review:**

* After-School Detention is considered effective if it results in a change of behaviour in the student detained. A change of behaviour is evident if the student is not detained repeatedly.
* If no change of behaviour becomes evident, the school must consider further options in terms of the Code of Positive Behaviour. Among these are internal suspension; external suspension and expulsion.
* If a student is repeatedly on After-School Detention during one school year, the relevant Year Head will contact the parent/guardian to arrange a meeting. The parent/guardian will be informed of the school’s view that After-School Detention has failed to correct the student’s misbehaviour and to advise them of an escalation of sanctions in accordance with the school’s Code of Positive Behaviour should any further instance of misbehaviour occur. If this fails to change the student’s misbehaviour, more serious repercussions will be utilised in accordance with the school’s Code of Positive Behaviour and the school’s Suspension and Exclusion Policy.

**Student Expectations during Detention:**

* All students are expected to present for After-School Detention at the assigned room at the assigned time. A student who presents late will have this time added on at the end of the After-School Detention. Students’ who fail to adhere to this request will be assigned a further After-School Detention on a day subsequent to the school day on which they were notified of this After-School Detention.
* All students must come prepared with all class books and materials.
* The teacher in charge will assign work to the students.
* Students will be encouraged to reflect on their behaviour and the reasoning for their After-School Detention. The staff member in charge will have a restorative conversation with the person on After-School Detention.
* With the agreed permission of the classroom teacher; and the teacher in charge of After-School Detention, students can attend after-school classes that may be occurring in the school that evening. Student’s must present to After-School Detention in the first instance and make the teacher in charge aware of this arrangement so they can ensure that correct procedures are followed.
* A student who proceeds straight to an after-school class without making the teacher in charge of After-School Detention aware of this will be considered to have not completed their After-School Detention and the sanction will be doubled.
* No disruption will be tolerated during After-school Detention. Disruption of the After-School Detention environment will lead to the student being asked to leave the room. Contact will be made with home and arrangements will be made for his/her collection. The student will be externally suspended, and arrangements made for the After-School Detention to be completed at a future date.

**Parental Expectations:**

* Support the school in maintaining a positive ethos in which good behaviour is the norm.
* Work in partnership with the school to ensure that their son/daughter completes their After-School Detention.
* Liaise with the school if their child cannot complete After-School Detention on a given day and provide an alternative. This must be done prior to the assigned After-School Detention and cannot be done retrospectively.

**Criteria for Success:**

**Ardscoil Phádraig** will accept the effectiveness of the After-School Detention Policy if it results in a change of behaviour in the student/s detained. A change of behaviour is evident if the student is not detained repeatedly. In turn; it will inextricably link with the school’s Code of Positive Behaviour and ensure that:

* Behaviour is in line with and/or exceeds expectations
* Quality teaching and learning is evident
* Respectful relations exist between staff/students/parents/guardians and the wider community
* It is understood and accepted by the school community
* Wellbeing of all members of the school community is to the fore
* **Ardscoil Phádraig** is a happy, caring and progressive school

**Teaching the After-School Detention Policy:**

**Ardscoil Phádraig** is an inclusive school. The After-School Detention Policy will be explained to all incoming students through the Induction Programme. Regular recaps and updates will be provided at class level and through whole-year group Assemblies when warranted. This will ensure the accessibility of the After-School Detention Policy and will contribute to the reinforcement of its rationale.

**Implementation:**

This policy will be implemented by the Board of Management of **Ardscoil Phádraig**. The Board of Management have the right to make the final decision regarding the interpretation and application of this policy.

**Ratification and Review:**

This policy was accepted and ratified by the Board of Management of **Ardscoil Phádraig** on **16 February 2022**.

This policy will be made available to all school personnel, the patron and the Department of Education and Skills if requested.

This policy and its implementation will be reviewed by the Board of Management on a regular basis.

Signed: \_\_**Kathleen McGahern**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Acting Chairperson, Board of Management)

Signed: \_***Rosemary Johnston***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Principal)