

# **Bohermore National School**

## **SUPERVISION POLICY**

### **Introduction**

This policy applies to all staff and children during school hours, break times, and on all school related activities.

### **Rationale**

The rules for National Schools 121(4) and 124(1) obliges teachers to take all reasonable precautions to ensure the safety of pupils and to participate in supervising pupils during school time and during all school related activities. Legislation such as the Health Safety and Welfare at Work Act and recent Court judgments have placed a "duty of care" and accountability on schools that must be underpinned by a policy covering all possible eventualities. Relationship to the Characteristic Ethos of the School This policy is in keeping with the school ethos of providing a safe and secure environment for learning for all pupils and the wider school community.

### **Aims and Objectives**

- To develop a framework that effectively ensures, as far as is practicable, the safety of children while at play on the yard or while engaged in school related activities
- To contribute to effective school management and comply with relevant legislation.

### **School Procedures**

Teachers assume a duty of care from 9.10am to 2.50pm and 1-1.30pm. At the beginning of each school year, the Board of Management informs parents that the school does not accept responsibility for pupils dropped off earlier than 9.00 a.m. and does not accept responsibility for the supervision of children after 2.50pm.

- It is the policy of the school to supervise the school yard during lunch breaks i.e. 11.00am to 11.10am and 1-1.30pm. A rota for supervision is drawn up by the Principal and this rota is displayed on the staff room notice board
- Special Needs Assistants assist Yard Duty Teachers in supervision at break and lunch periods. While these Assistants provide individual supervision for designated Special Needs children, they can act in an observing and reporting capacity, bringing instances of misbehaviour to the attention of the teacher on yard duty.
- Rules of the school yard are communicated to children regularly

- If parents indicate a worry about a particular child on the yard all teachers rostered for yard duty are informed of the concern so that the particular concerns can be addressed satisfactorily.
- Teachers on yard duty remain with the classes until the class teacher returns from break. Pupils are not allowed to enter the school building from the yard except to use the bathrooms.
- Children with injuries/complaints are dealt with directly by the teacher/SNA on yard duty. Children are brought to the staff room if there is an incident on the yard. If a pupil needs to sit down the S.N.A. will accompany them to the chair at the Reception area and inform the teachers in the staffroom, who will ensure the pupil is supervised.
- An Accident Report book is completed in the event of an accident or injury (see Accident and Injury Policy) and this is kept in the staffroom.

### Special Provisions

- a) During out-of-school activities such field trips, School Tours, matches, games, swimming, attendance at Communion/Confirmation practice, and Mass, back up provisions are put in place to ensure adequate levels of supervision are put in place. The level of supervision is usually one adult per 15 children with individual teachers in charge of specific groups. S.N.A.'S will assist teachers in supervision during out-of school activities.
- b) If a teacher has to leave the classroom unexpectedly for a brief period the class teacher in the next classroom will be asked to monitor both classrooms until the return of the class teacher.
- c) On wet days children remain in their classes under the normal supervision rota.
- d) Parents may request that their children be allowed leave during the school day due to health commitments etc. They will need to be signed out by the parent in the book at Reception.

Ratified by Bohermore N.S.

Board of Management on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

Signed Rev. James Walton Fr. James Walton, Chairperson