

# Monaleen N.S.

## EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES POLICY



# **Extra-curricular and After School Activities**

## **Rationale**

Monaleen National School recognises the benefit to all children of engaging in a wide variety of extra-curricular and after school activities. The holistic development of the child is a priority in Monaleen National School.

The range of what is on offer changes from year to year as it is dependent on availability of particular teachers and volunteers. We are hugely grateful to all the teachers and staff members who give their time after school to provide additional activities for the children.

For the purposes of this policy, we have classified extra-curricular and after school activities in the following way.

**1.1 Extra-curricular Activities** (organized in school, but may run during or after school hours). As of November 2018 our extra-curricular activities are Gaelic Football, Hurling, Camogie, Soccer, Athletics, Homework Club and Rainbows. This list is subject to change depending on availability of teachers/volunteers.

**1.2 After School Activities.** School Choir and School Band are after school activities which often have a role in some specific school events. They are run at the discretion of the organizing teachers/staff members. Coding, Art, Music, Board Games and Speech and Drama are some other after school activities which may be run at the discretion of the organizing teachers/staff members. This is not an exhaustive list and other activities may be provided at various times.

**2. Third Party Activities.** Other after school activities held in our school are provided by third party organisations, such as Sewing and Irish Dancing, and are not covered by this policy.

Children engaged in all extra-curricular and after school activities are expected to adhere to our school policies, e.g. Code of Conduct, Anti-bullying, Acceptable Use (internet) etc.

This policy was formulated by consultation with staff and the Board of Management of our school and reflects the need for clarity around organization of extra-curricular activities. It is a review of the 'mini-policies' which covered extra-curricular sports activities, 2015.

## **AIM**

To ensure that procedures around extra-curricular and after school activities are clearly understood by all parties, providing a safe and fun environment for all stake-holders.

## Guidelines

### 1. Communication and Consent

A note will be supplied to all children who are taking parting in extra-curricular activities outlining the general structure and content of the activities. **Parental consent to the structure and content is implied by allowing a child to participate in the activity.** Consent may also be sought in writing/digitally in order to allow a child to participate in the activity.

For all other after school activities, it is at the discretion of the teacher/staff member in charge of the activities how the content and structure of the activities are conveyed to parents/guardians. Consent may/may not be required.

**There is no hand-over from the class teacher to any extra-curricular or after school activities.** It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to provide all necessary medical and other information to the organizing teachers/staff members, as required.

### 2. Matches and Training (this supersedes the previous policy on matches and training, 2015)

- i. A minimum of two Garda vetted adults/teachers will be present for all training sessions and matches.
- ii. All children attending matches or training relating to school teams should wear their sports gear under their tracksuit on the day in question. We cannot guarantee provision of private facilities for changing at home or away venues. Changing rooms will be used when available.
- iii. Trainers will be fully responsible for the children during designated training times and matches only. Trainers cannot be responsible for the children outside of these times unless transport is provided by the school.
- iv. If the match or training takes place during school time, transport or escort to the venue is always provided by the school. For after school training and home matches, children must make their own way under care of their parents/guardians to and from the venue unless transport is expressly provided by the school. Transport will be provided for all away matches.
- v. Children will not be supervised before or after designated training times and matches unless this is expressly provided by the trainers/volunteers. **Children must be collected on time.**
- vi. If a child has a particular need (physical/behavioural/psychological/emotional), the school may require the support of the parent/guardian for safe inclusion of that child. Extra supervision and or SNA access is not available outside of school times or away from school premises for extra-curricular and after school activities.
- vii. **If a child has a particular medical condition, it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to provide the necessary information to the trainer to allow safe inclusion of the child.**

**3. After school activities, e.g. choir, music, coding, board games etc.**

- i. Children will be supervised by the teachers/adults in charge during the designated activity times only.
- ii. The teachers/adults providing the extra-curricular activity must be Garda vetted.
- iii. If a child has a particular need (physical/behavioural/psychological/emotional), the organizing teacher/volunteer may require the support of the parent/guardian for safe inclusion of that child. Extra supervision and or SNA access is not available outside of school times.
- iv. If a child has a particular medical condition, it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to provide the necessary information to the teacher/adult responsible to allow safe inclusion of the child.

**4. School Policies.** Children are expected to adhere to all relevant school policies, e.g. Code of Behaviour, A.U.P, Anti-Bullying etc. while engaged in all extra-curricular and after school activities.

**Communication with parents**

- This policy will be published on the school website and promoted on the school App.

**IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW**

This policy will be launched in February 2019 and implemented fully from February 2019. The policy will be reviewed on a two year cycle.

The school management team and the teachers will implement this policy.

The Board of Management ratified this policy on \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_

**Chairperson**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Principal**

**Date of Implementation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Review Date:** \_\_\_\_\_