

# **Aughnacloy Primary School**

## **Lunchtime Policy**

### **UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD**

Article 3

"Children have the right to have their welfare considered paramount in all decisions taken about them."

Article 12

"Children have the right to be heard"

Article 19

Children have the right to be protected from abuse and neglect."

Article 29

"Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment."

Article 28

"Every child has the right to an education"

Article 31

"Every child has a right to relax, play & join in a wide range of cultural & artistic activities."

### **INTRODUCTION**

Aughnacloy Primary School recognises the unique contribution that lunch time make to the social, emotional and physical development of children through the provision of opportunities for play, creativity, fun and enjoyment. This document is a broad statement of the aims and procedures for the school lunch times.

### **Aims:**

It is our aim that during break and lunch times children will:

- Have a happy break from formal learning opportunities
- Enjoy a safe informal learning environment
- Participate in activities which will promote social, emotional and physical development
- Understand that exercise, fresh air and natural light are all important for good health
- Maintain the school's high standards of behaviour, courtesy and consideration for others

- Have the opportunity to have the support of PATHS Playground Buddies and, when older, be a PATHS Playground Buddy.

### **LUNCHTIME ROUTINE:**

P1-P4 in the dinner hall 12.00pm-12.20pm

P5-P7 in the dinner hall 12.20pm-12.45pm

The school will support in any way possible the work of the catering staff in encouraging healthy eating. Teachers will actively assist at the beginning of the lunchtime of their classes to ensure that the children enter the dining hall in a managed and happy manner. This is seen as particularly important for the younger classes for whom it is important to establish lunch time as a social time. To allow the smooth operation of the dining hall 'grace' will be said in individual classrooms prior to entering the hall. During children's lunch times the children are supervised in the dining hall and outside by the lunch time supervisory assistants and PATHS Playground Buddies.

**On dry days, all children are expected to play outside.**

Children are expected to bring a coat with them for use at lunch time when it is cold, damp or snowy and a sun hat if sunny.

Playground equipment will be provided at lunch time for the children to use in the playground and PATHS Playground Buddies will set this up in each of the zones outside. A PATHS Playground Buddy will be responsible for each zone.

PATHS Playground Buddies will inform the supervisor on duty of any concerns over lunchtime.

Anyone wishing to remain indoors due to illness/injury must have an explanation from a parent sent over a message in Class Dojo.

The class teachers/principal will determine whether or not it is too wet or slippery to go outside. On wet days, children will return to their classrooms where they will sit and engage in something of an educational nature, for example, reading or make use of the 'wet playtime' resources.

## **TOILETS**

The toilets and cloakrooms are not part of the playground environment. Children may ask a supervising adult to use the toilet during lunch and break time

## **BEHAVIOUR DURING LUNCH TIME**

It is recognised that incidents of poor behaviour including bullying is more likely to occur in the playground than in the classroom. The school behaviour policy applies during lunch time and the lunch time policy should be read in conjunction with the discipline / behaviour policy and the Safeguarding /Child Protection policy. We expect the same standards of behaviour as during the rest of the school day and for pupils to respond to the authority of the adult on duty (teachers, lunchtime supervisors, classroom assistants, PATHS Playground Buddies)

### **Our Playground Rules are:**

- We will always care for other children so that everyone is happy and has fun.
- We will respect the supervisors and always do what they ask us to.
- We are patient and wait for our turn.
- We help people to do things that they aren't able to do on their own.
- We always take care of the equipment and play with it in the right zone.
- We always line up properly and quietly.

As part of our RRSA the children also decided on a Playground Charter based on article 31, to enhance the playground rules that already existed.



### **Our Playground Charter**

#### **Article 31 (leisure, play and culture)**

Every child has the right to relax, play and join in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.



#### **Our Responsibilities**

- Share
- Don't leave people out
- Take care of equipment
- Be kind to each other
- Play safely
- Respect supervisors
- Take turns
- Play by the rules
- Be a good sportsperson

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## Key language and Strategies of PATHS®

### Feelings Language

It is important to separate Feelings from Behaviour

All feelings are OK to have

Feelings are identified as Comfortable or Uncomfortable

Feelings can change

Behaviours are either OK or Not OK

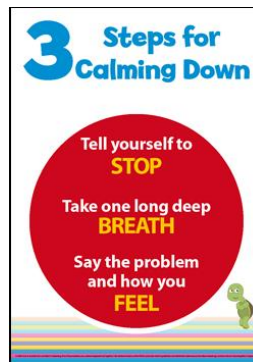
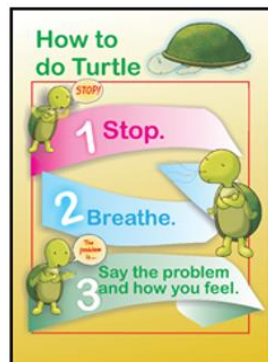
For Example: Pupil A It is ok to feel angry but it is Not Ok to hit/kick/shout at Pupil B.



### Self-Regulation

When a pupil is exhibiting uncomfortable feelings or perhaps following a Not Ok Behaviour incident it is important to support the child in being able to regulate these feelings before beginning to problem solve.

P1/2  
Do Turtle



P3 - P7  
3 Steps for Calming Down

Remember: To be able to support children in regulating their uncomfortable feelings the adult must model this and be a calming

### Problem Solving

With P1/2 pupils simply discuss what is Ok and Not Ok to do when problem Solving

P3 – P5



11 Steps for Problem Solving

P6/7

Control Signals



3 Questions to ask when Problem Solving

Is it safe? Does it break any rules? Does it treat others the way I would like to be treated?

Friendship Rules in PATHS®

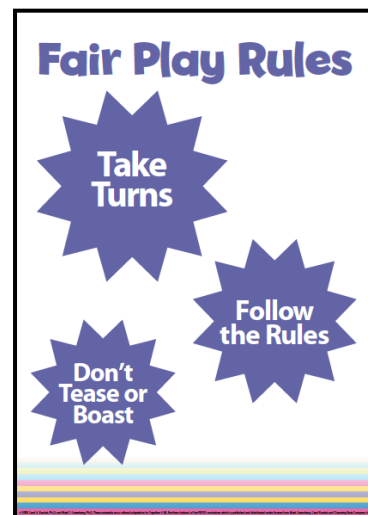
P1/2

What do Friends do?



P3 - P7

Fair Play Rules



All of these posters should be displayed across the school.  
Staff and PATHS Pals will also have these mini posters to use when outside in the playground.