

The Slaney Language Centre Code of Behaviour

Last updated: June 2016



As a language school we strive to provide a **friendly and supportive environment**, in which our students can gain greater **confidence in oral fluency** and increase their intercultural communication working alongside **learners of various nationalities**.

SLC goals for our language students are:

- To provide quality learning experiences in a relaxed and supportive environment
- To support, assist and encourage them to make progress in all areas of language and to achieve their personal learning goals.

Our Code of Behaviour is based on respect for others and for our environment, so that a positive and co-operative school atmosphere can prevail. A high level of courtesy and consideration for each other is necessary.

Behaviour that is ill-mannered, dangerous or disruptive cannot be allowed. Our code of behaviour is based on an ethos that teachers, staff, excursion leaders, host families, bus drivers and other students should be treated with respect, dignity and fairness at all times.

Our Code of Behaviour aims to ensure that the experience of all our students is a positive one. It is a key tool in enabling the school to support the learning of every individual language student and consists of practices and procedures that strike an appropriate balance between our duty to maintain an effective learning environment for all students and our responsibility to students whose behaviour presents a challenge to the teaching and learning process.

At the Slaney Language Centre we promote equality of opportunity and **prohibit discrimination, harassment and sexual harassment on these grounds:**

- race
- religion
- gender
- marital status
- family status
- sexual orientation
- age
- disability

The SLC code of behaviour applies to SLC students and relates to all school activities both during and outside of normal school hours.

- 1) In the Slaney Language Centre classrooms and common areas (including courtyard and surrounding gardens)
- 2) On the school bus
- 3) In the host families' houses
- 4) During activities and excursions

Slaney Language Centre students must obey Irish law at all times.

We encourage our students to display the following behaviour:

In the classroom:

- To participate actively in class
- To speak English at all times
- To listen to teachers and fellow students
- To follow instructions

In the host families' homes:

- To spend time with host family members in the kitchen or the living room.
- If there are children in the families, to play with them.
- To watch TV and listen to the radio
- To read books in English and to ask host families, if they can recommend a good book.
- To discuss similarities and differences between family life in Ireland and in students' home countries. Staying with a host family gives students a great opportunity to find out interesting facts about Irish customs and traditions.
- To adapt to the routine of the host family and always be respectful towards family members.
- **To respect host family's property and house rules.**

On the bus:

- To make new friends on Jim's bus and sit beside a different person every day.
- To always chat in English.
- **To follow all safety instructions!**

Always be polite and show respect towards other people.

The following behaviour will not be tolerated.

- Distracting other students in class.
- Not being prepared and ready for class, with class materials and homework.
- Not participating in class.
- Eating in the classroom or on the bus
- Speaking a language other than English in the classroom or common rooms.
- Not listening to staff members
- Not listening to teachers or fellow students in class.
- Using mobile phones in class.
- Using bad/rude language in class.
- Leaving rubbish in Slaney Language Centre rooms, gardens or the school bus.

Disciplinary sanctions will apply as follow:

- **1) Verbal warning**
- **2) Red sticker beside the student's name on the classroom attendance list**
- **3) The student will have to sign the incident report book with the Academic Director or the Managing Director.**

Parents of underage students will be informed of the misbehaviour.

- Damaging School Property, Bus Property, Property of Activity Providers or Property belongings of the host families.
- Disrespectful behaviour towards another person including host family members
- Smoking in the host family's house
- Not obeying safety instructions
- Not obeying host family rules

Disciplinary sanctions will apply as follows:

- 1) The student will have to sign the incident report book.**
Students who do not follow safety instructions on the bus will be excluded from future excursions.
- 2) Parents of underage students will be notified by the school director.**
Apologies will be required. Damaged property will have to be paid for by the student's parents.
- 2) Adult students will have to leave the classroom and to apologise to the relevant person. All damaged property will have to be paid for.**
- 3) If inappropriate behaviour continues, the student may be expelled and no refunds of fees will be made.**

All Irish laws must be obeyed at all times.

- Underage drinking (Under Irish law alcohol can only be consumed when aged 18+)
- Underage smoking (Under Irish law smoking is only permitted when aged 18+)
- Underage sex
- Drugs (other than prescribed medication)
- Having overnight guests in a host family house (unless permitted by the host family)

Disciplinary sanctions will apply as follows

- 1) The Guards (police) will be called and underage students' parents will be informed.**
- 2) The student will be expelled from school and sent home at his/her own expense. No refunds of fees will be given.**

The management.