

	Department of Education and Community Services		Issue date: January 2013	
	<p style="text-align: center;">SCHOOL TOILET POLICY</p>		Revision:	
			Author: DECS/SISS	
			Approved:	
			Page:	1 of 3

This document is freely available to the entire school community. It has been approved by the school governors and learners, and made available in the school newsletter, website and prospectus.

Aims

- To maximise access to learners' toilet facilities during the day to promote the health, well-being and learning opportunities of all learners.
- To provide good quality toilet facilities throughout the school.

Rationale: Why are we writing this policy?

- The school recognises that well-maintained toilet facilities where learners feel comfortable and safe and have open access to throughout the school day, are essential for health, well-being, and learning.
- We value and respect our learners and want them to be able to benefit from good provision and practice.

Objectives: What do we want to achieve?

- To ensure that this policy is both accepted and upheld by the whole-school community – school management, staff, learners, governors, parents/carers, site manager, cleaning and ancillary staff.
- To keep all toilets open and available to learners throughout the school day. While learners can use toilet facilities at break and lunchtimes if they need to, we ensure learners have access at all times. We recognise that toilet needs are highly individual and do not conform to regimental timetables. We recognise that some learners only feel comfortable going to the toilet when others are not around and will allow them to quietly ask the teacher and come in and out of class to use the toilet without adverse comment.
- To ensure that the toilet and washroom facilities are suitable for the range of anticipated users, including learners with disabilities and special needs, with adequate lighting, fixtures and fittings.
- To ensure the toilet and washroom facilities cater for the needs of all learners from ethnic and religious communities, and ensure these needs are met in a sensitive, informed, and appropriate manner.
- To ensure that the toilet facilities provide visual and aural privacy for users, ensuring a spare supply of cubicle door locks.
- To ensure that all toilet areas have properly maintained supplies at all times of warm and cold water, liquid soap, hand drying facilities and toilet tissue in dispensers, provided at a convenient height.

- To ensure sanitary disposal units in all female cubicles (for girls aged eight and over) are serviced on a regular basis and to provide sanitary dispensers in female toilet blocks (where applicable).
- To implement and maintain an effective toilet cleaning, supervision and inspection regime to ensure proper standards of provision and cleanliness, throughout the school day.
- To locate drinking water supplies and outlets in safe and appropriate locations, and not in toilet areas.
- To supervise the toilets at break and lunchtimes if learners perceive the need.
- To actively seek the views of the whole-school community in relation to any concerns about toilet provision and access issues (ensuring a child-friendly procedure for learners to report deficiencies or problems) and to respond seriously to these and deal promptly with any problems highlighted by the learners.
- To actively consult and involve the learners in managing the toilets (via the healthy schools' council).
- To encourage learners to respect the toilets and each other (via the healthy schools' council, in RSE lessons, in form-teacher discussion times) and for learners to establish a Learner Code of Conduct in toilets and washrooms.
- To regularly include toilet management issues in all appropriate school council, staff, parent/carers and governor meetings.
- To implement and maintain annual reviews of the policy to monitor that it is being adhered to and remains relevant.

Notes

- This policy document was produced in consultation with learners, parents/carers, school staff, governors and the school nurse.
- The school actively supports the provision of open access to well-maintained, clean, private and safe toilet facilities throughout the school day.

School Toilet Charter

Access to decent toilets whenever the need arises is a fundamental human right and necessary for good health and well-being.



The school shall provide:

1. Unrestricted access to a toilet, whenever or wherever the need arises.
2. Adequate numbers of facilities for both female and male users which ensure sufficient privacy.
3. Dedicated unisex toilets, or female and male toilet cubicles, properly equipped, for users with special needs.
4. Properly designed toilet and washroom facilities, suitable for the range of anticipated users, with adequate lighting, ventilation, fixtures and fittings.
5. Hot water, ideally from a mixer tap, with adequate provision for liquid soap and hand drying facilities.
6. Toilet tissue dispensers provided at a convenient height, replenished as needed throughout normal hours of usage.
7. Sanitary towel disposal units in all female cubicles (where age appropriate in both primary and secondary schools), serviced on a regular basis.
8. An effective toilet supervision regime to ensure proper standards of provision and management throughout normal hours of usage.
9. An effective toilet cleaning/inspection regime to ensure adequate standards of hygiene, behaviour and cleanliness, throughout normal hours of usage.
10. A published school toilet management policy approved by school governors and learners, and communicated to all learners, parents/guardians and staff.
11. A child friendly comments/complaints procedure, for learners, parents/guardians and staff to communicate toilet concerns or grievances to the head teacher and/or school governors.