



British International School of Cracow

Behaviour Policy

June 2024

BISC is a family school, aspiring to function in a warm, friendly environment, and to do our utmost to help our students excel as learners. We wish to assert a positive vision of good behaviour, but in creating this we should be aware that sanctions will be used as necessary. The Primary School and Secondary School have separate codes of conduct.

Primary Behaviour Policy

The primary school follows 6 main “Golden Rules”. Each primary teacher also has their own class-specific rules and reward systems. The Golden Rules are:

1. We keep our hands to ourselves
2. We treat others the way we want to be treated
3. We raise our hand to speak
4. We walk sensibly through school
5. We try to speak English
6. We respect the school property

If rules are broken, primary teachers will respond accordingly. It is impossible to list all behaviours that should be avoided and will be treated on a case-by-case basis. For low-disruptive behaviours, teachers will usually respond with a verbal reminder/warning and most of the time this is sufficient enough. For disruptive behaviours that are consistent and done with intent or behaviours of a more serious nature, primary teachers may escalate the sanctions given, once again on a case-by-case basis. This may range from a more formal conversation with the child regarding their behaviour, a similar conversation with the Heads of Primary, informing their parents/guardians of what has occurred or missing a portion of their outdoor recreational time.

Secondary Behaviour Policy

General Decorum

Older students have a responsibility to be positive role models for our younger students. Positive behaviour includes: walking (not running) around the building, speaking (not shouting), treating others with respect (no bullying – cyber or physical, no inappropriate physical contact), good manners (“Please” and “Thank you”), cooperating with all staff. Just as swearing is not normally considered to be acceptable in family homes, it is not acceptable in school. If a smaller child appears to need help, it is decent to offer help. Likewise, smaller children should be given priority when using stairs – they need to hold the bannister more than teenagers do.

Racism and intolerance are unacceptable.

It is good manners to be aware of the languages spoken by the people in your environs. The working language of the school is English, and everyone, to a greater or lesser degree, speaks English. When in linguistically mixed company, it is courteous to use English as a default language.

Academic Conduct

Students should listen attentively and work constructively. If a student has a problem, they are obliged to make sure the teacher is aware of this.

Plagiarism is unacceptable. Sources must be cited.

Problems with homework should be brought to the teacher's attention. Students should be ready to discuss homework issues with teachers.

The internet in school should be used for educational purposes. Social media, file sharing sites and inappropriate content should not be accessed in school.

The IB study room is for study. It is not a common room. Study is when a person tries to change their state of knowledge or skill through methodical work.

In choosing to attend this school, certain decisions as to the kind of education desired are given. All subjects in the curriculum are of equal importance. Many aspects of the educational vision are delivered across different curriculum areas. Repeated failure to attend some lessons will compromise delivery and receipt of this education. For IB pupils the consequences of not attending classes may be failure to fulfill the attendance requirements (80% attendance in all subjects) and subsequently failure of the course.

Dress Code

BISC does not have a school uniform. However, this does not mean that dress is unimportant. The teachers' dress code is 'smart casual'. Students should not show more skin than teachers do. 'Smart casual' is also the dress code for students.

Strictly Forbidden

Smoking is illegal in Poland under the age of 18. Students, including those aged 18 or over, are strictly forbidden from smoking in school or in the immediate area. Immediate area means the area enclosed by the following streets: Smolensk, Piłsudskiego, Straszewskiego, Zwierzyńska and Aleja Słowackiego

Alcohol - bringing to school or drinking alcohol in school is strictly forbidden.

Drugs - strictly forbidden.

Willful damage to the building or other school property is strictly forbidden.

Verbal and physical violence towards other members of the school community is strictly forbidden.

Closing remarks on behaviour

It is impossible and foolish to list all behaviour patterns that are positive, or that should be avoided. Common sense should prevail. This is a school - a place where we wish to work together in a family atmosphere to develop our minds and characters to become able and positive members of society.

The spirit of this code of conduct should be respected as well as the words.

Disciplinary action will be taken according to the disciplinary action flow chart at the end of this handbook. This will be permanently displayed in the office, as is the code of conduct