

# *Bunscoil Mhic Reachtain*

Below are listed the RIGHTS and RESPONSIBILITIES of all people involved in *Bunscoil Mhic Reachtain* and is by no means exhaustive. We have taken them from 'A Different Kind of Discipline' by Tony Humphries.

Because education will influence children's lives so greatly, no stone should be left unturned to ensure that they are nurtured in a haven of positivity, encouragement and care.

Whilst the list below is very important in guiding us in our work as a learning community, we also ask all adults to speak to our pupils in the same way they would do if the child's parent was beside them – it's a simple piece of advice and one that ensures that parents and children alike feel assured that those in charge of taking care of children do exactly that. After all, we can't teach unless we care first ... 'a good carer will make a good teacher', we say.

## RIGHTS

Children need adults to safeguard their rights, but the sooner they are helped to be aware of their own rights, the better for themselves and others.

### *The rights of CHILDREN in Bunscoil Mhic Reachtain:*

1. to be physically safe, happy, comfortable and treated fairly
2. to be respected and cared for by teachers and peers
3. to learn in a positive atmosphere
4. to fail and to succeed
5. to be communicated with in clear and direct ways
6. to ask for help when rights are threatened
7. to be a child

### *The rights of PARENTS in Bunscoil Mhic Reachtain:*

1. to be treated with respect at all times by all staff in school
2. to be communicated with in clear and direct ways by teachers
3. to be involved in and consulted on their child's education
4. to approach school when concerned about any matter (e.g. educational progress, bullying)
5. to seek support from school on child's behalf
6. to feel assured, involved and informed about child
7. to have a positive line of communication with the school

### *The rights of TEACHERS in Bunscoil Mhic Reachtain:*

1. to be safe
2. to be treated with respect by children, parents and school staff
3. to teach in an atmosphere of order and attention
4. to seek support for children
5. to contact parents of children who are not showing responsible behaviour.

# *Bunscoil Mhic Reachtain*

## Responsibilities

### *Children's responsibilities towards each other:*

Children must:-

1. treat each other with respect
2. break silence on abuse of another pupil
3. take care of each other's belongings
4. address each other by first name
5. listen to each other

### *Teacher's responsibilities towards children:*

Teachers must:-

1. ensure that learning has only positive associations
2. be fair, consistent and predictable at all times
3. place emphasis on effort rather than performance
4. praise children
5. listen to all sides
6. be student-centred
7. apologise when needs be
8. use mistakes and failures as stepping-stones to further learning
9. show concern for undisciplined pupils

### *Teacher's responsibilities towards parents:*

Teachers must:-

1. Accept parents' role in children's education
2. Listen to parental concerns
3. Contact them when there are behavioural/learning difficulties
4. Make parents comfortable
5. Set up informal and formal means of contact
6. Be approachable

### *Parents' responsibilities towards teachers:*

Parents must:-

1. Share the responsibility for the education and behavioural management of their children
2. Attend parent-teacher meetings
3. Respond positively to requests for help from teachers
4. Listen to all sides when children are having problems in school
5. Co-operate with teachers when developing responsible behaviour in school
6. When requested, seek help from helping agencies outside the school