

HIRE OF FACILITIES

POLICY

Rationale:

- Schools have a large variety of facilities from which community groups can benefit. Under Section 15AA of the Education Act 1958, School Councils may hire these facilities to third parties. Fair and reasonable hiring arrangements can prove mutually beneficial.

Aims:

- To allow the community maximum access to school facilities whilst ensuring the protection of the facilities themselves.

Implementation:

- School council has the authority to allow the use of school facilities by outside bodies when the facilities are not required for school purposes and also have the responsibility to establish the terms and conditions of use.
- School Council has decided to hire facilities such as the BER and the Activity Centre to external groups under the following conditions: -
- All groups wishing to use the school's facilities are required to make a written initial application to the Principal or Business Manager detailing the facilities, times and purposes for which the grounds or facilities are being sought.
- Each application will be considered by the Principal or Business Manager on its merits, referring to an up-to-date booking schedule to ensure availability.
- Successful applicants will be advised in writing and will be required to enter into either a 'One-Off Hire Agreement' with the school council or enter into a 'License Agreement' for regular use of the grounds or a specific facility. These agreements are required irrespective of whether or not a hire fee is charged.
- The Department of Education provides template Agreements for use by school council which we will use.
- Hire and Licence Agreements typically request information such as purpose, dates and times of use, areas of use, key contact names and numbers, security arrangements, details regarding league affiliations, insurance and incorporation details, a hiring fee, litter, noise control, vehicles on school property, car parking etc and the rights and responsibilities of both parties.
- The principal will liaise directly with the key contact person/s and vice-versa should any concerns arise.
- School Council via the Principal or the Business Manager will ensure that the school grounds and facilities are well kept and maintained in a safe manner.
- School Council will respond to any concerns made by the hirer of unsafe or dangerous equipment, buildings or facilities.
- School Council reserves the right not to hire facilities to groups it does not wish associated with the school.
- School Council will not charge a fee for the use of facilities by groups associated with the school (eg: Parents and Friends Association).
- The business manager will be the day-to-day contact for groups hiring school facilities.

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed annually.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in....

May 2016