



DEMERIT SYSTEM POLICY

As per decision taken by the School Management, the following policy relating to demerits will apply.

No exceptions will be made to the policy listed below and no appointments will be made to meet with the class teacher or members of the Management Team to discuss any matter pertaining to demerits.

1. No demerit will be overturned.
2. Children need to learn to obey rules and learn that there are consequences for unacceptable behaviour. We have all made mistakes and have learnt from them. Learning to accept constructive reprimands and to deal with diversity will empower your child when he/she enters the workforce one day.
3. By questioning the teacher who allocated the demerit, you are questioning his/her integrity and professionalism. This is rude and confrontational.
4. You were not at school when the incident happened. Many children tell their parents what they want their parents to hear and not the truth.
5. It is important for parents to support the school otherwise the children learn very quickly to play the one against the other. The school doesn't criticise or interfere with the parent's methods of discipline at home, and it would be appreciated if the parents would reciprocate and accept our methods of discipline.
6. If there is another child involved, please refrain from questioning what happened to that particular child and how he/she was disciplined. Concern yourself with your child only and rest assured that fairness is considered in all cases.
7. Treat the demerit as a valuable learning tool and an opportunity to reinforce the need to follow the values and rules of the school. By doing this, you will have a compliant child who follows the rules when he/she is a teenager.
8. Rest assured that if we deem the demerit to be of a very serious nature warranting both parent and teacher intervention and collaboration, you will be contacted to schedule a meeting.
9. We promote positive reinforcement, and the issuing of merits far exceeds the number of demerits issued. Demerits are not punitive but constructive in nature. Teachers are NOT vindictive!
10. We have a full time Counselling team who together with the Management Team deals on a weekly basis with cases of a very serious nature e.g. child abuse, death, divorce, neglect, abduction, hijackings etc. We cannot spend unnecessary time dealing with petty demerit problems.
11. Your support and understanding that in the "big picture of things" ONE or two demerits, although not to be ignored, are inconsequential when there are far more serious cases that need to be attended to.
12. I think you will agree that a school that has no disciplinary measures in place will be a school where optimal learning will not take place.

"Children need to learn to take responsibility for their actions so that they do not become adults believing that nothing is ever their fault."

