



# Castlere Community School



## Down Town Policy

### Morning Break:

In accordance with our Code of Behaviour, all students must remain on school premises during the morning break. Any student found leaving the school to go down town, without permission, will be sanctioned in accordance with our "Procedures for breaches of Code of Behaviour".

### Lunch Break:

Junior cycle students:

At the heart of school endeavours is the total welfare and wellbeing of each and every person in a positive and safe environment. In keeping with this ethos and our schools' Code of Behaviour, it is felt that it is within the best interests of our junior students to remain on school property during all break times, unless prior arrangements have been made with management. For this reason, for the academic year 2015 – 2016, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year students will not be permitted to leave the school premises during break times to go into town. From 2016 – 2017 onwards, this rule will apply to all 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year students. The school is fully supervised at both breaks and activities and food options will be available in the school during these times.

Senior cycle students:

It is the right of the parent to decide whether or not to allow their senior cycle student (2015 – 2016: 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> years, 2016 – 2017: 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> years) down town at lunchtime.

There are valid reasons why students should remain in school

- Students are supervised in school during lunchtime
- The gym is open and students may get involved in games and activities.
- Tea, coffee and hot snacks are available at school. It is far healthier for students to bring a good lunch to school rather than constantly eating junk food.
- Shop – owners are suspicious of large numbers of students congregating round doorways and "invading" their shops.

If you do decide to allow your son/daughter down town please advise them that they are expected to behave with courtesy and respect. The Town Trust has advised that the Demense is out of bounds to students at lunch-time. Be advised also that the school disclaims all responsibility for their behaviour during this time. If your child is badly behaved you will be notified immediately. The school retains the authority to sanction students as it sees fit.

Parents are requested to fill in the appropriate form in the students' homework journal stating their preference in relation to this policy.