

# Manners, Courtesy and Showing Respect to Others

## The Importance of Good Manners

*Please*

EXCUSE ME

Bitte

*Merçi*

Lo Siento

Danke

Pardon

Sorry

THANK YOU

DIOLCH

*Grazie*

Dear God,

We thank you for each day,

Please help us to respect and tolerate everyone, including those that are different to us.

Help us to be kind and patient with one another and always show respect. No matter what race, age, gender or religion people are, help us to be fair and kind to them.

Help us to co-operate, be helpful and listen. Protect all of us and help us to make our school and the world a better place.

Amen

The aim of this PSHE session is to have:-

- Opportunity to reflect on our behaviour.
- Understand the importance of having good manners, courtesy and respect to others.
- Understand the importance of mutual respect.

# WHAT ARE GOOD MANNERS?

Courtesy, politeness or having good manners are all about respecting others and yourself.

Good manners cost nothing. These are wise words that we probably remember being taught as children.

But while these gifts are free to give, the simple offerings of being polite and kind — like saying please and thank you, listening carefully, and making eye contact with people — can bring huge benefits to ourselves and those around us.

*How would you feel  
if someone:*

*Talked to your  
friend but  
turned his or  
her back on  
you?*



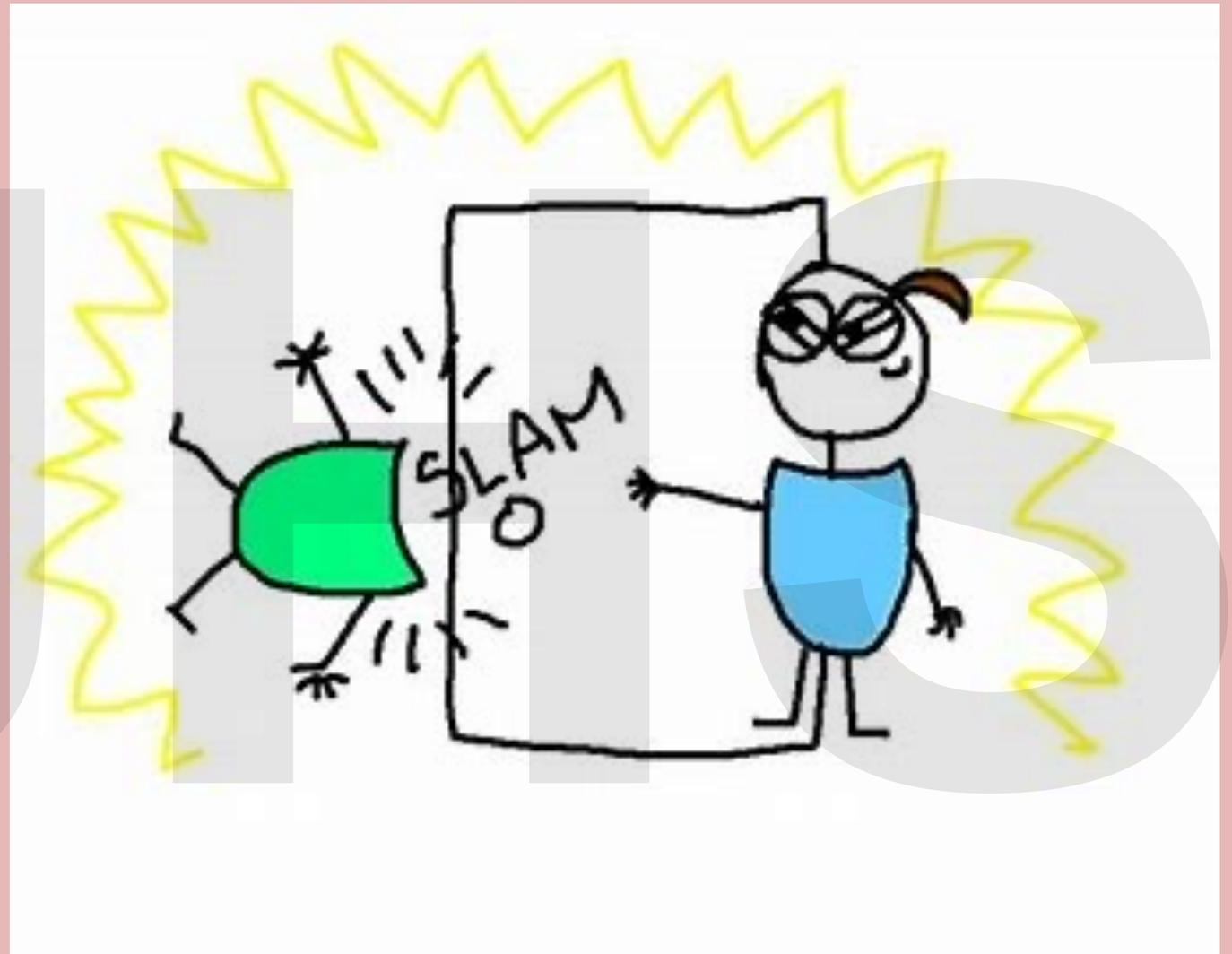
*Or if someone...*

*Pushed you out  
of the way to  
get the seat you  
were to sit on?*



*Or if someone...*

*Let the door slam  
in your face as  
you are about to  
walk through it?*



*Or if someone...*

*Shared your  
things but never  
shared any of  
their things?*



*Or if someone...*

Never said  
*'please'* *'excuse  
me'* or *'thank  
you'*?





Good manners is about considering the **feelings of other people**, and being the kind of person that others will like and respect.

# *Manners, courtesy and respect*

- By having manners and respect can help us appear more confident, maintain more fulfilling personal relationships, lead to us prospering at school and generally enjoying happier and healthier lives.
- What we probably don't realize that when we are well-mannered we are being mindful and improving the wellbeing of ourselves and others around us.
- By living more mindfully, it can lead to us naturally having better manners and help us to live a more prosperous life.

# What are good manners?

- By practicing basic good manners, we are showing those around us that we respect them and are considerate to their feelings. This makes them feel better, and us too.
- Most of us have heard the saying by Jesus, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." This wisdom is so ingrained in our life lessons, it has become known as "the golden rule."
- Examples of good manners can manifest themselves in seemingly small actions and rewards — like holding the door open for someone and receiving a silent smile of recognition in return. But it can also make or break crucial relationships and be the difference between harmony and conflict at school, home, at work, or even between countries and cultures on the world stage.
- Like any rule, there are some exceptions and we must appreciate that others' experiences, needs, and boundaries can be different from our own.
- Moral sense of respect and fairness is already built into us, we just need to constantly unlock it to benefit ourselves and others around us.

**MANNERS, COURTESY AND RESPECT ARE INTRINSICALLY LINKED TO OUR VIRTUES.**



# *Manners, Courtesy and Respect*

At St Joseph's we have school rules to make sure our community runs smoothly.

As a form discuss our school rules.

Why do these rules exist?

What happens when rules are not upheld?



THINK!

Our choice of actions can affect other people.

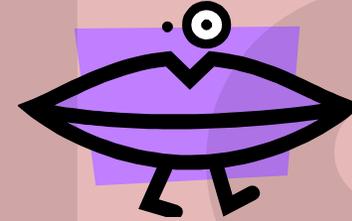
We do not have to behave like we do. We have other options.

Sometimes it can be useful to reflect on our behaviour. Think about your behaviour.

- Have you always behaved in the correct manner and showed respect?
  - Why did you choose to behave that way?
  - How could you have behaved in a more suitable way?

Why is it important to have good manners and be courteous to people around us?

Do you like other people to be courteous and polite to you and treat you with respect?



DISCUSS

Imagine the following situations and then discuss your opinion and ideas as a form.

1. You are waiting to get on the bus. You start to push and shove other people out of the way and rush to get on the bus before the people who were queuing.

What is wrong with this situation? What is wrong with your manners and how should you wait for and behave on the bus? What do you think the other people think of you?

2. You are with your mates in a local shop. There are adults in the shop too. You and your mates start to point and laugh at one old lady's hat. You poke fun at her and start to use bad language.

How have you shown a lack of respect? How would the lady and the others in the shop have felt?

3. Some younger children are walking along the street. A group of teenagers are standing outside the shops. As the younger children walk past, they spit on the pavement and laugh.

How would the younger children have felt? Why is it bad manners to spit? What problems do you think this would cause the shop owner? Would other customers want to go past them to get in the shop?

Look at the statements on the table below. Which ones do you agree with?

Then explain why.

		X or ✓
1	If people are walking through a door, I will try and get through first	
2	I will hold a door open for people to get through first.	
3	If I have a bag of chips, I will eat them all myself.	
4	If I have a bag of chips, I will offer to share them with my mate.	
5	Why should I respect other people? They do not respect me!	
6	I should show respect to others and care about their feelings.	
7	I think it's good manners to queue up sensibly and calmly.	
8	I think it's stupid to queue up. I just push to the front; I put myself first.	
9	I just eat my food and let the canteen staff clear up after me.	
10	It is okay to shout and run through the corridors disturbing the learning of others.	
11	If I see someone carrying heavy things, I will ask if they need any help.	
12	If I see someone carrying heavy things, I just let them get on with it.	
13	In school it is okay to throw litter on the floor or leave litter in the classrooms.	
14	I respect older people and do not make their lives difficult.	

Agree  
or  
Disagree

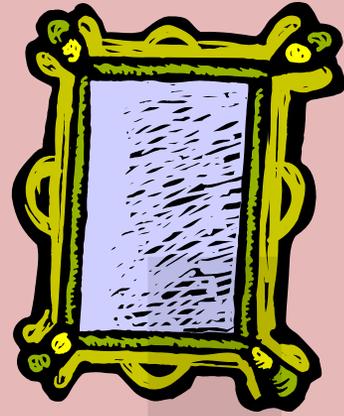


- Some pupils think it's cool to show disrespect to people and to use bad manners.
- Our role models are people we look up to and respect. Sometimes we copy their behaviour. If they show lack of respect, so do we.
- When I show a lack of respect, it's because I don't care about other people.
- No one can tell me how to behave.
- My behaviour has to be appropriate to the time, the place and the situation.

**Manners, Courtesy and Respect:** Some good manners may seem like common sense, but we often need to be reminded exactly what is expected of us.

1. **ASK, DON'T TAKE:** Before you take use words such as "May I" or "Can I." It's always nice to ask first. This also lays the groundwork for being faithful in borrowing things or asking permission as they grow older.
2. **SAY PLEASE AND THANK YOU:** We all know these as the quintessential "good manner words," They are simple words, yet they speak volumes.
3. **APOLOGIZE SINCERELY:** Apologizing is more than just saying you're sorry. We need to be humble ourselves when we are wrong and show sincerity through body language, word choice, and behaviour.
4. **SAY EXCUSE ME:** It applies to many situations—asking to be excused from the table, asking for a way through, or excusing yourself when you accidentally sneeze or cough near someone. It's not only polite, but it also communicates a humble heart.
5. **KNOW BASIC TABLE MANNERS:** At its root, table manners involve practicing self-control. Poor table manners demonstrate laziness and a lack of respect. On the other hand, when you are mindful of how you conduct yourself at the table, it demonstrates self-control and regard for those around you.
6. **LISTEN CAREFULLY:** Listening can be tough for children. Their hunger to be heard usually outweighs their desire listen intently to what's being said. It takes patience and persistence to listen well.
7. **DON'T INTERRUPT:** It's so important to learn not to interrupt and to wait for others to finish speaking. It shows consideration and an understanding that you view what the other person says as being important.
8. **BE KIND:** Mark Twain said it beautifully, "*Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.*" It's a universal language communicated by actions rather than words. For example holding the door open or not barging to get on the school bus.
9. **BE ATTENTIVE:** Learning to pay attention goes beyond good manners. It's really an essential skill for as it can help them excel in your school work (and life).
10. **BE RESPECTFUL:** It is important to show respect their fellow friends—those of the same age or even younger, members of staff and to our school environment. Every person is unique and made in the image of God, and that should be respected. Respect further involves avoiding rude and hurtful words.

# Reflection



- Why are manners, courtesy and showing respect important?
- What impact could it have on your future if you choose to use no manners, or show courtesy or respect?
- How will people treat you if you aren't well mannered, courteous and respectful?
  - Explain one thing that you have learnt?

