



Department of Education

Primary Branch

R.R. 144329

Circular 9/82

Circular to Boards of Management and Principal Teachers of National Schools

Re: The Abolition of Corporal Punishment in National Schools

The Minister for Education in pursuance of the Government commitment to the abolition of corporal punishment in schools, has, following consultations with representatives of Teacher and Managerial Organisations, amended Rule 130 of the Rules for National Schools to read as follows:-

School Discipline

- 130 (1) Teachers should have a lively regard for the improvement and general welfare of their pupils, treat them with kindness combined with firmness and should aim at governing them through their affections and reason and not by harshness and severity. Ridicule, sarcasm or remarks likely to undermine a pupil's self confidence should not be used in any circumstances.
- (2) The use of corporal punishment is forbidden.
- (3) Any teacher who contravenes sections (1) or (2) of this rule will be regarded as guilty of conduct unbecoming a teacher and will be subject to severe disciplinary action.

This amendment will have effect from 1 February, 1982. You are requested to bring this Circular to the notice of all teachers in your school and of all future teachers appointed to the school.

L. Ó LAIDHIN,
RÚNAÍ.
Eanáir, 1982.