



# Pastoral Care Policy

March 2021 with Coronavirus Guidance 5th March 2021 CG5/21  
included

## **Covid-19 Update**

The whole school community has been affected by the Coronavirus Pandemic. The Pastoral Care arrangements for the pupils are the same as always but must take account of all the added legal and safety regulations that have been legislated by the government and which school must adhere to.

The pupils may now present a further range of issues as the lockdowns affect progress. They may face confidence issues, difficulties re-engaging with face to face learning issues within school or any problem which was born out of lockdown.

School needs to have mechanisms in place to address any issues which may come up and allow pupils a safe way to talk/address these issues and concerns which may occur as soon as school reopens or the issues may emerge as pupils settle back in and come to terms with another school restart which may or may not be the last.

The whole staff need to be able to react to pupils Pastoral Care needs as they present as well as having restart curriculum work built in to day to day teaching (Knowing me Knowing you resource)

Pastoral Care arrangements will also need to take into consideration the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on their mental & emotional health as well as their general sense of wellbeing.

Annual Pastoral Care action plans should identify areas for development which help staff and children deal with the ongoing pandemic.

### **Rationale**

In All Children's we recognise the central importance of Pastoral Care as we seek to provide for our pupils a safe and caring environment in which they can strive for full personal and academic potential. The quality of pastoral care influences the ethos and tone of the whole school and we accept that pastoral care must permeate all aspects of the school's daily routines, its curriculum and its extra-curricular activities.

### **AIMS**

- \* To welcome pupils into a school community in which they can feel a sense of pride, loyalty and belonging and to encourage them to make their own personal contribution to enhance school life.
- \* To assist each pupil to reach personal fulfilment and happiness and to develop the qualities of self-esteem, self-reliance, adaptability and physical wellbeing.
- \* To ensure each pupil feels valued as an individual and that his/her opinions and concerns are listened to.
- \* To achieve a happy, purposeful and disciplined atmosphere in the school.
- \* To create an environment in school where pupils are safe and secure from harm.
- \* To help pupils to develop positive, co-operative, respectful and tolerant attitudes and behaviours and to promote self-discipline.
- \* To prepare pupils for secondary education.
- \* To facilitate close and co-operative links with parents.

## **Pastoral Care Arrangements**

All members of staff, teaching and non-teaching have a responsibility for the pastoral care and welfare of pupils and regular staff development and yearly whole training is provided to ensure that knowledge and skills are kept up to date.

### **Pastoral Team**

The Designated Teacher for Pastoral Care is The Principal Mr Jon Beattie

The Deputy-Designated Teachers for Pastoral Care are Mr Martin Houlahan and Mrs Sharon Curran.

The Board of Governors representative responsible for Pastoral Care is Mrs Gill Gleghorn

The pupils are reminded and encouraged to seek help from any adult when they have a concern about any issue that they feel needs adult intervention.

### **Child Protection**

The school recognises that the pupils have a fundamental right to be protected from harm. The school's Child Protection Policy is included in our Safeguarding information.

### **Liaison with External Agencies**

The school has strong links with the EA and other relevant agencies ie. Education and Welfare Officer, the School Medical Officer and Social Services.

### **Liaison with Parents**

All Children's IPS seeks to create a partnership between parents/carers and staff, operating in the interests of the pupils and in the belief that pupils prosper best, both socially and academically, in conditions of strong home support for the pupil and the school.

In addition to the Parents Annual meetings with teachers, parents may contact the school at any time to arrange a meeting with the class teacher or Principal.

### **Staff Development**

School- based training on pastoral issues is offered regularly on staff training days and at weekly meetings.

The Designated Teacher and the Deputy Designated Teachers regularly attend courses organised by EA and other external agencies.

### **Policy Review**

All pastoral policies are reviewed by staff and ratified by governors on a three-year cycle and made available to parents.

Date of next review/ratification: School Year 2020-2021

### **Related School Policies**

This policy is set within the broader school context of Safeguarding/Pastoral Care and as such should be read in conjunction with the following school policies:

- \* Child Protection Policy
- \* Anti-bullying Policy
- \* Policy on the Promotion of Positive Behaviour