



KILRONAN
SCHOOL

Pastoral Care Policy

Issue Date: September 2025

Review Date: September 2027

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

(UNCRC):

All children have the right to:

- have their welfare considered paramount in all decisions taken about them (Article 3)
- be protected from being hurt or badly treated (Article 19)
- an education (Article 28)

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VISION

At Kilronan School we aim to provide a happy, safe and stimulating learning environment where pupils are motivated to achieve, feel valued and are respected as individuals. We believe our inclusive approach meets the needs of each pupil and empowers them to reach their full potential through experience of and participation in all aspects of the curriculum.

We are committed to:

- Putting pupils first.
- Providing a welcoming, dynamic and supportive learning and teaching environment.
- Delivering the Pre-School/ NI Curriculum/ School Leavers Programme through an individualised and child centred approach.
- Ensuring that the highest standards of Pastoral Care, Safeguarding and Child Protection are in place.
- Promoting and sustaining good behaviour.
- Treating everyone with dignity and respect.
- Continuing to foster and develop effective home/school links.
- Working together as a team for the benefit of each pupil.
- Working collaboratively with Allied Health Professionals and other agencies to ensure the needs of pupils are met.
- Developing and maintaining close links with other schools and the local community for the mutual benefit of all.
- Giving all staff opportunities for appropriate continuing professional development.
- Embracing new opportunities and innovative approaches to meet the changing needs of the pupils and the school.

1. Introduction

Through its pastoral care arrangements and provision Kilronan School demonstrates its continuing awareness of the importance of all pupils personal and social development. The welfare of all pupils is paramount and central to the work carried out and it is at the core of Kilronan's ethos and values. We recognise the uniqueness of each child and through our pastoral care, we want to ensure that each pupil feels cherished and thrives to achieve their full potential in a safe and happy environment.

2. Aims and Purpose

2.1 At Kilronan School we aim:

- To create a safe, caring community within our school where there is respect for oneself and respect for the views, opinions, and differences of others
- Create an atmosphere in which young people feel secure, valued as individuals, and are encouraged in their learning, growth, and social development in a healthy and safe environment
- To develop all aspects of a pupil's well-being i.e. their spiritual, moral, emotional, physical, and intellectual development
- To develop the necessary skills to cope with the demands and challenges of adult life
- To provide an environment that will enable each child to develop their self-confidence, their self-esteem, and a positive self-image
- To work in partnership with parents/carers and outside agencies to overcome any difficulty a pupil may encounter and therefore enrich the quality of teaching and learning. There is frequent and effective liaison with parents/carers and appropriate external support agencies. Problems are tackled by the school in partnership with parents/carers and representatives of these agencies
- To help pupils appreciate and value the opportunities and resources they have and to work as a school to help others in our community and the wider environment
- To ensure that all staff are well informed and trained in all aspects of pastoral care

2.2 The pastoral care of our pupils will be developed and enhanced through a wide range of activities and opportunities. Combined with the Northern Ireland Curriculum, pre-school curriculum and school leavers programme, these enhance the development of the 'Whole' child.

Opportunities include:

- Weekly assemblies
- Whole school events and class lessons (Personal Development/PDMU and RSE Curriculum)
- Workshops with outside agencies (e.g. PSNI, Mood Matters, Just Ask etc)
- The involvement of pupils in presentations and school productions
- The recognition of achievements in and out of school
- The celebration of pupil's work
- Class duties/responsibilities and work experience
- The involvement of pupils in charities and supporting our community
- Extra-curricular activities (e.g. Tag Rugby, Forest Schools, Choir)
- Circle time/News time/ PD/PDMU lessons
- Parent/Teacher meetings
- Educational visits and school leaver residentials
- The involvement of pupils in their classroom rules, rewards and outcomes
- The on-going review of all pastoral care policies and procedures
- Access to school-based nurture support (see Nurture Policy)
- Access to school-based positive behaviour support (see Positive Support Policy)

Events throughout the year which continue to reinforce important pastoral information e.g. Anti- Bullying Week, Internet Safety Week, (these areas are also reviewed with pupils on many occasions throughout the school year).

3. Organisation

3.1 Pastoral Care is a fundamental aspect of school life which begins when pupils enter school and continues until they leave.

3.2 Pastoral care provides for all the pupils' planned and co-ordinated guidance and teaching in all the relevant areas, including: -

- Promoting and Sustaining Positive Behaviour
- Safeguarding and Child Protection
- Drug Education
- Relationships and Sexuality Education
- Health Education
- Careers Education

4. Liaison with Parents and other Agencies

4.1 In Kilronan, we value the close collaboration with parents/carers in all aspects of school life. We encourage parents/carers to bring any areas of concern firstly to the class teacher's attention as soon as possible. Should problems or misunderstandings arise, we will listen and work to find a resolution. We value parental support in the day-to-day implementation of our pastoral care policies and procedures.

4.2 The school will utilise the support and expertise of other agencies. These include:

- Education Authority
- Autism Advisory Support Service
- CYPSS
- Educational Psychologists
- Behaviour Support Services (EA)
- Children's Disability Community Nursing Team and Health Agencies
- NSPCC/ Barnardos
- Just Ask
- School Counselling Services
- Charitable Organisations/Associations
- Board of Governors

5. Roles

5.1 The co-ordinator for Pastoral Care is the Head of Pupil Services, Mrs Tracy Shaw, who has overall responsibility for the implementation of the policy. The co-ordinator, in consultation with staff, will ensure that the programme is delivered to each pupil at an appropriate level. Mrs Tracy Shaw is supported by

Kilronan's Vice Principal, Mrs Sarah Swaile who sits on the MRLP Pastoral Care Committee and collaborates with other post primary schools to ensure high standards of our pastoral care provision.

5.2 In line with our pastoral roles and responsibilities every member of staff has an ongoing duty to make sure that our pupils are allowed to enjoy an emotionally stable environment. This duty extends to all relationships, pupil/pupil, staff/pupil, staff/staff. Pastoral Care extends beyond pupils to staff and parents.

6. Staff Development

The co-ordinator, along with the schools safeguarding and child protection team, will ensure all staff are updated on all developments, legislation and documentation pertaining to Pastoral Care through:

- school based inset
- EA based inset
- attendance at relevant events etc

7. Arrangements to Monitor and Review

This policy is written in consultation with staff and Governors and is reviewed every three years. It should be read alongside other relevant policies in school (in particular the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, Positive Behaviour Support Policy, Code of Conduct and E-Safety Policy).

MONITORING AND REVIEW

This policy will be monitored appropriately and reviewed for revision as appropriate.

Signed: Rosie O'Donnell (Chairperson of Board of Governors)

Signed: Sharon Decker (Principal)

Date: 15-10-2025

Version	Date	Revision Author	Summary of Changes
2.0	8/9/25	S Swaile	S Holmes - change of name to S Swaile Co- Ordinator name changed from S Swaile to T Shaw