



Pastoral Care Policy

Straidhavern Primary

Pastoral Care in our school is a priority and will remain so in future. It is acknowledged as playing a crucial role in the development of the ethos of the school. This ethos is based on spiritual values with emphasis on the intellectual, moral, emotional and spiritual development of each pupil.

The Pastoral Care Policy arises from the statutory duty of care placed on governors to safe guard and promote the welfare of pupils. (DENI Circular 2003/13)

This over- arching Pastoral Care policy supports the school in promoting a caring, supportive environment in which staff and pupils can work in an atmosphere of mutual respect. We recognise that central to the success of this is the involvement of parents and other outside agencies within the community. We strive to work in partnership with them to achieve our aims.

THE POLICY AIMS TO:

- ensure that each pupil feels valued, special and unique and a member of the school Community
- instil a sense of personal worth and dignity through intellectual, moral and spiritual development
- empower pupils in building and monitoring good relationships with pupils, staff and others
- assist individuals to develop their lifestyles, appreciate life and respect the world in which they live
- encourage a sense of personal accountability for their own learning and actions so that all our children can achieve their full potential.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

To ensure a structured approach to the caring for all pupils, we have developed the following structure:

Class Teacher (Circle Time and PDMU)

Principal acting as Head of Pastoral Care

Chair of Governors: Mr. A Mc Dowell

Whilst the class teacher is identified as the key person in impacting on the well-being of the pupils in his/her class, it is important that they work closely with the Head of Pastoral Care who will provide support and leadership in the pastoral domain.

In the event of further advice and support being required, the Principal and the deputy designated teacher Mrs. Hunter are available to provide additional support for individual pupils. (internal/external support)

SUPPORTING POLICIES

Whilst all policies and procedures within the school take cognisance of the pastoral care of pupils and staff some specifically support it in very specific areas.

Straidhavern Primary School staff has developed a number of internal school policy documents as listed below.

These policies include:

- Health and Safety (EA - North Eastern Region)
- Positive Behaviour
- Anti - Bullying
- Drugs/Misuse of Substances
- Safe Guarding / Child protection
- E Safety
- Use of reasonable force /Safe Handling
- Special Educational Needs

These are available in school: Child Protection policy is issued to parents each year. Cross referencing the policies is essential in delivering the pastoral care policy.

INCLUSIVE

In Straidhavern Primary School we believe in the fundamental principle that every pupil is entitled to be educated. We ensure that pupils' individual needs and the collective class needs are identified and supported to ensure they continue to feel part of the school community.

LIAISON WITH PARENTS/ CARERS

We see ourselves as partners with parents in the education of pupils. Mutual support activities to ensure communication and parental involvement include:

- Regular bi - annually parent/teacher meetings (Curricular): additional one to one meetings with parents/carers as required.
- Parent's Evenings (Information)
- Prospectus, News Sheets, Letters, Web-Site
- Annual Progress Reports (AGM)
- Sporting Events
- Fund-raising activities

Policy Date.....

Signature of Principal.....

Signature of Chairperson of Board of Governors.....

Review Date.....

