

St Bronagh's P.S.

Pastoral Care Policy



Date approved by Board of Governors: 8/11/23

Review Date: Autumn 2024

Signed 
Chair of Governors

PASTORAL CARE POLICY

Rationale

At St Bronagh's Primary School we the teachers, ancillary and trainee staff have an important role in ensuring the wellbeing of every child in our care. The school's ethos provides the basis for this policy. Together, we aim to provide a happy secure environment for children at school and aim to respond with speed and sensitivity to any problem a child might be experiencing.

Definition and Aims

The teachers and ancillary staff want to create a supportive atmosphere where pupils feel happy and secure in all activities, whether social, spiritual, mental, emotional or physical. We aim to approach the care of the children in a positive way.

The pastoral care dimension should be evident in:

- the school ethos
- individual subjects
- the hidden curriculum
- extra curricular activities
- reward procedures
- discipline procedures

Through our pastoral care policy, we aim:

- To create and maintain an atmosphere where pupils feel they are well known, safe, valued, respected and happy.
- To maintain the highest standards of teaching and learning.
- To respect the views of pupils and colleagues.
- To promote the aims of the school by developing whole school policies.
- To build an atmosphere of trust.
- To make the children aware of potential dangers through the teaching of Personal Development and Mutual Understanding.

Staff

The teaching staff will encourage pupils:

- To develop self-discipline and self-respect.
- To foster relationships where they feel happy and secure.
- To achieve the maximum benefit from their time at school.
- To set and be successful in reaching personal, social and academic goals and be responsible for their own actions.
- To develop a respect for the opinions and rights of others and show tolerance towards them.
- To respect and care for the world in which they live in.
- To develop healthy eating habits/ lifestyle through Health Education.

Non-teaching/ancillary staff also has an important role in generating a positive climate within the school community. They will be encouraged to:

- Understand and have empathy with the general ethos of the school.
- Work alongside the teachers in providing a caring approach.
- Help the children achieve their personal goals.

All staff need to be aware of the impact of social change on the pupils' home situation so that we can sensitively respond to their needs.

Parents

Parents will be informed about the Pastoral Care Policy and they will be given the opportunity to comment on it if they wish. A good relationship between staff, pupils and parents is paramount to generating a positive climate within the school community. Parents are always welcome and should inform the school if they have any concerns about home or medical circumstances which may affect their child's work or behaviour in school. Any information disclosed will be treated as confidential. Parents are also encouraged:

- To work in partnership with the school in the education of their child.
- To attend parent/teacher meetings.
- To help out at sporting events, school trips etc.
- To attend school events e.g. school concerts, fund raising activities.
- To support the PTA.

The school will provide parents with

- Regular updates through messages and our website.
- Letters informing them about school issues/events.
- An annual progress report on their child.

Outside agencies

In order to promote and develop the physical needs of the individual pupils, the school will at times require the assistance of outside agencies within the community. Anyone coming into the school to impart information or entertain will be welcomed. They will have undergone vetting procedures or will always be accompanied by member of staff. Examples of agencies are:

- Educational Psychologist
- School Nurse
- Educational Welfare Officer
- Road Safety Officers
- Fire Authority
- Musicians/Artists
- Performers
- Religious Visitors
- Visitors from local people/parents
- Coaches/tutors

Extra-Curricular Activities

Positive attitudes will be promoted through extra curricular activities inside and outside school. The children will be given opportunities to take part in quizzes, debates performances etc. Pupils will always be encouraged to respect people and property whilst on trips outside school. In P7 they will be introduced to lessons on relationships and sexuality through courses if available.

Related School Policies

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

- Child Protection Policy.
- Misuse of Drugs/Substances Policy.
- Positive Behaviour Policy.
- Anti-Bullying Policy.
- Intimate Care Policy.
- RSE Policy.
- Personal Development Policy.
- Use of Reasonable Force and Safe Handling Policy.
- Administration of Medication Policy.

The Role of Governors

The Board of Governors endorse this policy and with the principal will review its effectiveness. They will ensure that the policy is administered fairly and consistently.

