

**DERRYLATINEE ST FRANCIS
PRIMARY SCHOOL**



***PASTORAL CARE
POLICY***

PASTORAL CARE

Rationale:

Pastoral Care in Derrylatinee St Francis Primary School is a priority. It is acknowledged as playing a crucial role in the development of the ethos of the school. This ethos is based on Catholic values with emphasis on the intellectual, moral, emotional, physical and spiritual development of each child.

The 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.

In Derrylatinee Primary School 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.

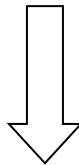
Aims:

- ◆ To ensure that he/she feels valued, special and unique and a member of the school community
- ◆ To instil a sense of personal worth and dignity through intellectual, moral and spiritual development
- ◆ To empower pupils in building and monitoring good relationships with pupils, teachers and other agencies including Social Services, Clergy, EWO, SELB advisors and others
- ◆ To assist individuals to develop their lifestyles, appreciate life and respect the world in which they live
- ◆ To encourage a sense of personal accountability for their own learning and actions

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE:

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

Class Teacher



Principal

As the Class Teacher is identified as the key person they will provide support and leadership in the pastoral domain. In the event of additional support being required, Mrs Mary McNeice, Pastoral Care Co-Ordinator and Principal, is available to support individual pupils.

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.

Cross referencing the following policies is essential in delivering the pastoral care policy.

These policies include:

- **Health and Safety**
- **Anti-Bullying**
- **Discipline**
- **Drugs/Misuse of Substances**
- **Child Protection**
- **Acceptable use of the Internet**
- **Special Educational Needs**

INCLUSIVITY

Derrylatinee St Francis Primary School supports the fundamental principle that every child is entitled to be educated. Therefore children's' individual needs are identified and supported to ensure the continue to feel part of the school community.

LIAISON WITH PARENTS

We see ourselves as partners with parents in the education of children. Mutual support and co-operation is an essential element in achieving our objectives. On-going activities to ensure communication and parental involvement include:

- **Parent/teaching meetings (minimum one per year)**
- **Workshops, eg DELTA**
- **Prospectus, News Sheets, Letters, Link Books**
- **Annual Progress Reports**
- **Sporting Events**
- **Parent Support Group**
- **Fund-raising activities**
- **Extra-curricular activities**
- **Sacramental Occasions**
- **Musical Shows**

STAFF DEVELOPMENT and TRAINING:

Aspects of Pastoral Care remain a permanent feature of our School Development Plan and subsequently staff development and training are considered essential to support this. Our on-going development programme helps staff identify the attitudes, values, skills and knowledge, which will enable them to carry out their pastoral roles.

Staff participates in on-going training in interpersonal skills, counselling skills and teaching methods which engage pupils actively in their learning. Training programmes are organised through:

- **On-site courses**
- **Courses organised by SELB**
- **Courses provided by other bodies**

RESOURCES:

To ensure implementations of the policy the Principal and Governors will ensure that adequate resources are made available and that time will be made available to develop the programme throughout the school.

LIAISON WITH EXTERNAL AGENCIES:

We are committed to developing good working relationships with relevant external support agencies to enhance, protect and support individual children's and teachers' social and emotional welfare.

DEVELOPMENTAL NEEDS OF CHILDREN:

The needs of pupils are met as they develop and change during their time in school.

TAUGHT CURRICULUM:

Personal, Social and Health Education is delivered to all classes through curricular subjects, e.g. Religion, Science, and through educational themes, e.g. Health Education, EMU. It is aimed to empower young people with the knowledge, values/attitudes and skills required to make good choices in their lives. Active learning strategies are employed to ensure their delivery.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION:

Monitoring:

Ongoing monitoring is an integral part of our policy. Support is given to those teachers who require assistance in carrying out any aspect of their pastoral role.

Evaluation:

All aspects of the policy are evaluated on an On-going basis with parents' children's and staff views being requested. Our Pastoral Care Policy will be reviewed in light of DENI, CCMS, SELB and/or CCEA circulars.

Whilst the Pastoral Care Co-Ordinator has overall responsibility for evaluation, self-evaluation is a feature of every teacher's role.

This policy will be reviewed in October 2017