



"Praying together,
Learning for life,
Caring for all"

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Pastoral Care Policy

Our ethos is one that nurtures education through recognition and celebration of all children's experiences and achievements, whatever the context.

Each child is unique and made in the likeness of God.

Every child should succeed at and be praised for this success

UPDATED NOVEMBER 2019





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As parents, carers, teachers, support staff or governors, we have an important role in ensuring the well-being of every child in our care. Together we aim to provide a happy, secure environment for all children at school, and to respond with speed and sensitivity to any problem a child might be experiencing.

As a Catholic community we support both children and adults in living by the values we find in the Gospel.

St Joseph's is a family school where everyone is respected and valued and our children enjoy learning in a very busy and happy environment. We have been blessed to teach children with so many gifts and talents and we support and develop them in ambitious and exciting ways.

St Joseph's Church overlooks our school and we have a very close relationship with the St Joseph's Parish Community. Father Stephen Woolley is a regular visitor to school and is always available to offer advice and support to families.

We are proud of the pastoral care we offer our children and families, which permeates all aspects of the curriculum as well as supporting additional needs of individual children and their families. We provide the opportunity for every pupil to learn life skills and develop into responsible, confident, self-aware and capable young people equipped to cope with the challenges of the wider world.

Aims

- To create a caring, safe and secure learning environment for staff and pupils.
- To create an environment where pupils feel able to discuss their feelings and concerns.
- To enhance the pupils' self-worth and self-confidence.
- To help pupils value and respect the views of others.
- To support pupil progress across the curriculum.
- To support pupils in developing healthy lifestyles.
- To promote a Behaviour Policy which respects the rights and responsibilities of staff, pupils and parents.
- To encourage pupils to show respect and understanding of those whose culture, beliefs or lifestyle may be different from their own.
- To ensure there is good communication between the school, parent/carers and external agencies.
- To support emotional development and independence

The Pastoral Team will support and help the children by:

- Listening to their views.
- Helping them to manage difficulties in their life.
- Helping them to understand how to be a good friend and co-operate with others
- Raising their self-esteem.
- Motivating them to be successful and achieve.



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- Encouraging them to be more self-sufficient and independent.
- Producing a plan of work towards agreed goals.
- Supporting them to organise their time and work in school and at home.
- Helping them overcome barriers to learning.
- Provide age appropriate therapies and interventions.
- Develop and implement bespoke support programmes
- Encourage and support restorative practices.

A member of the Pastoral Team will support children through one to one sessions, group work/time limited interventions and in class support.

Examples of interventions include Feel Good Friends Friendship Club, Lego Therapy, Mindful Colouring, Circle Time, personalised and whole class transitional programmes, self-esteem initiatives, emotional coaching and Relax Kids sessions. Our PSHE curriculum and the school's PHSE policy encourages self-awareness and enhances self-esteem, respect and tolerance for others and develops a variety of social skills. Teachers are encouraged to use Circle Time as an opportunity to discuss any issues with their class and promote self-esteem and positive behaviour. We also offer Mindfulness sessions from an outside agency to support the positive mental health and wellbeing of our pupils.



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Responsibilities

Pastoral Lead	Mrs Taylor and Miss Bailey-Withers
Parish Priest	Father S Woolley
Designated Senior Leader for Mental Health and Wellbeing	Miss Bailey - Withers
Responsible Governor for Mental Health and Wellbeing	Dr. Helen Stannard
SENDCo	Mrs G Parker

All members of staff have responsibility for the welfare of our pupils.

The Designated Teacher with specific responsibility for Pastoral Care is Miss Bailey – Withers who liaises with parents, outside professional agencies, pastoral team and school staff.

Mrs Parker (SENDCo) may also communicate with teachers, support staff and outside agencies with regards to the pastoral care of children with SEND.

Staff members are kept updated about issues regarding families within the community, which may affect the attitude/behaviour of the children.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

At St Joseph's, inclusion is at the heart of our mission statement and underpins the way that we relate, the way that we "pray", "learn" and "care".

Our commitment to inclusion is reflected in the core values that we share including:

- love and mutual respect
- justice and fairness
- high expectations of each other

Our aim is to enable each child to reach their full potential. As a Catholic school we aim to build a caring and supportive Christian community where each individual is able to grow in faith and understanding. We recognise that each child is a unique individual with his or her own contribution to make to the life of our school.

Child Protection

We aim for all our pupils to be healthy and happy. All of our staff are fully vetted and we follow the Government's 'Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education' guidance.

We have a duty to ensure our children are not at risk from any abuse. If we suspect any form of abuse we shall report our concern to the social services. Your child's safety and well being are our first concern.

The pastoral care dimension deals with the physical and emotional comforts of each individual child. The caring role of all the staff in the school will be evident in all aspects of the child's school life.

