

**PASTORAL CARE
IN ST. COLMCILLE'S**

“Pastoral Care permeates every aspect of the life of the school - academic, social, physical, moral and religious. All members of the school community feel valued and sustained as they grow together through their successes and failures.” CCMS 1996

2.1 DEFINITION

Pastoral Care is about the quality of service we can give to children, to ensure that they come to school to be happy and to develop, to the best of their ability, in a happy and caring environment. Pastoral Care will encompass the needs of both children and adults. All needs shall be responded to in a manner which is respectful and dignified.

2.2 AIMS/PURPOSE OF OUR PASTORAL CARE POLICY

We shall provide a happy, caring and secure environment where each pupil is unique and equal to all others in line with our school aims.

2.3 ETHOS

The school shall provide a positive, caring and open atmosphere, where each child will be encouraged to contribute to and feel part of the school community. We will provide opportunities for children to develop pride in self, class and school and to respect others and their environment.

The Pastoral Care ethos shall promote attitudes of tolerance, equality and fairness, where values and attitudes are seen to be ‘lived out’ and not merely advocated.

2.4 RELATIONSHIPS

The school shall provide an atmosphere where all members of the school community will be encouraged to treat each other in a caring, courteous and respectful manner.

2.5 ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT

Pastoral Care is the responsibility of all staff. The principal shall be informed and involved in all proceeding. He will liaise with the appropriate agencies and be responsible for monitoring progress and keeping staff informed.

2.6 RECORDS

Personal details will be kept on each child throughout his/her school life. Some of this will be of a confidential nature and will be communicated to staff by verbal and written means. Records will be updated, reviewed or replaced when necessary. Young people will have an input into their own records of achievement and/or educational plan.

2.7 CLASSROOM PRACTICE

In order for teachers to provide a broad and balanced curriculum, a positive environment will be created where learning tasks are set at an appropriate and challenging level. Opportunities for interaction will be provided, through whole class, group and individual approaches, leading to mutual respect and understanding whereby opinions of others are sought and valued. Children's achievements will be recognised and rewarded.

2.8 PARENTAL LIAISON

Parents have a wide range of responsibilities in relation to their children and success in school depends very much on the co-operation and trust between home and school. We value a close partnership with the parent or guardian. We believe that good communications between school and home should be made from an early stage so that parents are familiar with the standards set and expected. The staff will ensure that parents are given regular information and opportunities to assist in their child's development. The school will provide regular opportunities, both formal and informal, for parents to discuss their child's development.

2.9 RESOURCES AND ACCOMMODATION

The school will reflect a feeling of warmth and a sense of pride and belonging. It will strive to achieve this through an attractive and well cared for environment, where children and adults shall have their part to play.

The Principal's office shall be made available for private consultation.

Resources will be collated and updated for both staff and pupils.

2.10 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

This policy shall be reviewed and updated in accordance with its effectiveness and changes in legislation.