

HOLY FAMILY PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

PASTORAL CARE POLICY (Nursery Specific)

Aims

This policy is designed to ensure that:

- We develop children's personality and talents.
- We prepare children effectively and sensitively for the next stage in their life.
- We develop children's respect for others and self respect in a consistent and sensitive manner.
- All children are safe and secure in their nursery environment.
- We develop children's respect for the natural environment.
- All of the above are achieved in a sensitive and child friendly manner.

Principles

This policy is based on the following principles:

- Staff should know and consistently implement their responsibilities in respect to the policy aims.
- Parents should be supportive of the staff and should be confident in the level of care and learning provided by the nursery staff.
- Very young children need routine, security and trust to develop appropriately.

Practices

In order to secure the aims of the policy the following practices will be consistently implemented and regularly reviewed:

- Communication between nursery and home will be consistent, open and transparent with the focus on supporting the child.
- Internal communication within the school will be consistent and transparent. This will be especially the case between nursery staff and
 - Principal
 - Pastoral care co-ordinator/child protection teacher
 - SENCOThe focus of the communication will be to support the child.
- A warm, supportive and respectful atmosphere will be secured and maintained in the nursery between pupils and staff, among pupils and among staff.
- Regular and appropriate staff development will be provided for all nursery staff in line with the priorities established for the school and outlined in the School Development Plan.
- The condition, quality and safety of the nursery environment and nursery equipment will be kept under constant review.
- All new parents will receive an overview of the Child Protection Policy and all parents will be reminded regularly about designated personnel via the Parents' Newsletter. A full copy of the Child Protection Policy will be available on request from the school office or can be downloaded from the school website.

- Links with external agencies will be maintained and developed in order to ensure that the needs of children are addressed as promptly and effectively as possible.

Co-ordination

The responsibility for the co-ordination of this policy on a daily basis will rest with the nursery co-ordinator. Overall responsibility for this policy resides with the pastoral care co-ordinator, Mrs Donaghy.

Safety

A range of strategies are utilised to ensure the safety of all pupils and staff within the nursery. These strategies include:

- Intercom - door security system.
- Pedestrian entrance.
- Visiting students are vetted by the providing institution.
- Fire drill reviewed annually.
- All equipment and resources are monitored for appropriateness and condition regularly.
- Medicine for chronic conditions will only be administered on receipt of written directions from a parent.
- Parental awareness regarding infectious diseases always highlighted.
- Documentation and data related to all pupils are treated confidentially.

Generic issues associated with Pastoral Care

The generic issues associated with pastoral care will be addressed in the manner outlined in the overall school pastoral care policy.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Responsibility for the monitoring and evaluation of this policy rests with the nursery co-ordinator.

Review

This policy will be kept under constant review. The policy will be formally reviewed in January 2009. Responsibility for the review resides with the nursery co-ordinator and the pastoral care co-ordinator.