

Pastoral Care Policy 2017-2018



Holy Cross CEVA Primary School

A Whole School Policy for Pastoral Care and Pupil Support

At Holy Cross CE (VA) Primary School, our school community has a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children who are our pupils. This means that we have a Safeguarding Children and Child Protection Policy and Procedures in place. All staff including our volunteers and supply staff must ensure that they are aware of our procedures. Parents and carers are welcome to receive a copy of these policies on request and they are available on our website.

Sometimes we may need to share information and work in partnership with other agencies when there are concerns about a child's welfare. We will always ensure that our concerns about our pupils are discussed with their parents/carers first unless we have reason to believe that this is not in the child's best interests.

Key Personnel who make up the Pastoral Team:

Our Designated Child Protection Officer: Mrs. Nicola Naylor, Deputy Head Teacher/Inclusion Leader

Child Wellbeing and Safeguarding Leader: Mr Neil Mack

Family and Community Leader: Mr Carl Jones

School Approach

At Holy Cross CE (VA) Primary School we approach the welfare of our pupils in a positive way; all our staff reinforces the philosophy and ethos of the school. As a 'Healthy School', we promote the health, safety and well-being of our children through the ethos and care we provide, through the management of the school, through our learning and teaching and through our partnership with others.

Holy Cross CE(VA) has structured the Pastoral Team to support the school community through a multi-faceted approach. The CWS Leader will support individual and groups of pupils within school whilst the FC Leader will support families within the home environment. The aim is to provide high quality, multi-layered support to improve the lives of our children and families.

Supervision

We wish our children to feel happy and secure in whatever activity they are taking part. Our children are supervised at all times, and we place great emphasis on the welfare and well-being of the children in our care. Full supervision continues during all extra-curricular activities, such as school clubs. No child remains in the classrooms, central resource areas, cloakroom/toilet areas or other areas of the building during playtimes and lunchtimes without adult supervision. Children should not enter the building at break times without the permission of the member of staff on duty.

All our children should feel able to talk freely and openly to any member of staff, if they have any worries or problems of any kind on a work or personal level. Staff members are expected to respond to children in an appropriate manner, offering advice, support, guidance and reassurance in conjunction with our other policies, including our Child Protection Policy.

Involvement of Parents and Carers

The class teacher, or the supervising adult on duty, resolves minor difficulties, worries or upsets involving any child, which arise within the classroom or the playground. Incidents that are more serious, such as the use of language based upon prejudice, or concerns about a child's behaviour, health or welfare, should be referred to the Head Teacher, a Deputy Head Teacher, Assistant Head Teacher or a member of the Pastoral Team. A child's parents or guardians are contacted if it is felt advisable to involve them in a particular situation or issue. This contact is in person, when the child is collected from school, or by a telephone call or letter. Parents are encouraged to talk to their child's class teacher initially, followed by a member of the Pastoral Team, the Assistant Head Teacher a Deputy Head Teacher or Head Teacher, if necessary, if they have any concerns or worries. Parents should feel able to share concerns about home circumstances or medical matters that might affect their child's work or behaviour in school. All discussions are treated as confidential. However, Child Protection procedures have to be followed where appropriate. Holy Cross CE (VA) Primary School respects the individuality of every person and pupils learn to be non-judgemental and supportive in their approach to people who might seem 'different' because of an ability or appearance.

Outside Agencies

Holy Cross CE (VA) Primary School has established and maintains close links with outside agencies involved in the care of children. These include the Behaviour Support, Social Care and the

Police/Fire Services. Our relationship with the Police School Liaison Officer includes regular talks

and discussions about road safety, being cautious towards strangers, substance use and misuse and peer group pressures. We also maintain a very close working relationship with the School Nurse, the Health Visitors, the Attendance Service, the Early Help Team, and the Educational Psychology Service. The School Nurse and other organisations are contacted to provide appropriate counselling for children in need.

All children are given regular vision, hearing and health checks to monitor their physical development. Regular health and hygiene checks are made throughout the school year. The School Nurse also calls at the school regularly to liaise with staff and any parents who wish to engage.

Pastoral Support for Individual Pupils

At Holy Cross CE (VA) Primary School we are aware that certain groups of children are at particular risk and a Pastoral Support Programme should offer assistance to:

- ◆ those on the Child Protection Register
- ◆ Looked-after children

- ◆ children with special needs
- ◆ those children in the care of the local authority
- ◆ young carers
- ◆ those from families experiencing stress, e.g. bereavement
- ◆ children with long-term absence from school

Holy Cross CE (VA) Primary School acknowledges school-based intervention is needed for disaffected pupils. Holy Cross CE (VA) Primary School shapes a Pastoral Support Programme for individual children to manage their particular needs. The Programme of Support depends on their personal situation. Parents/Carers are involved in the Support Programme as much as possible.

Identified children receive support from the school staff, including Mrs. Nicola Naylor, who is also the Deputy Headteacher/Inclusion Leader. If appropriate, time is allocated for the child to talk to assigned members of staff on an individual basis. This specific member of staff oversees the general welfare of the child in school, with support from the Pastoral Team.

The school works closely with external agencies when necessary. Social Care should be involved in supporting pupils in care and pupils on the Child Protection Register. The Early Help Team and Attendance Service can assist with establishing support for pupils with low attendance. The School Nurse's involvement is with those who have medical needs, including pupils who are absent because of long-term illness. For disaffected pupils at Holy Cross CE (VA) Primary School who display behavioural problems that continue to reoccur, requests for support should be made to the Educational Psychologist or through the Early Help Assessment and Early Help Services. A pupil may be introduced to their own Care and Support plan with input from all relevant members of staff and the pupils' parents/carers.

A School Pastoral Team

We take seriously our legal duties regarding ensuring the well-being of our pupils. When drawing up this policy we felt that, whilst this is a stand-alone document, Pastoral Care relates to all aspects of school life. Please read this in conjunction with our Safeguarding, Inclusion and Positive Behaviour Policies. This policy should be in full support and accordance with the Equalities Act 2010 and school is determined to comply with non-discrimination provisions.

Headteacher: _____

Chairman of Governors: _____

Signed: _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____