**Policy for Pastoral Care at Lisnadill Primary School**

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Every student matters, every moment counts

**Policy Review**

Policy ratified by BOG**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Next review date**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Introduction**

Pastoral Care is not a frill or option, it is the oxygen essential for the learning process to occur. McGuinness (1989)

**Our School Ethos**

At Lisnadill Primary School we offer a warm and welcoming environment with a family atmosphere, where all children feel valued, loved and cared for. Every voice is heard and respected. Children are nurtured to develop the gifts tht they have been given and are encouraged to achieve their full potential. We aim to provide an inclusive environment which promotes respect and fairness by working in partnership with the local community. We strive to make everyone’s time at Lisnadill happy and fulfilling, preparing them for a successful adult life.

**Pastoral Care Vision and Values**

In Lisnadill Primary School we are primarily concerned with the safety, health, well – being and personal development of all our pupils. We work to ensurethat our children feel valued, safe, loved and cared for. We recognise the uniqueness of each child and through our pastoral care, we want to ensure that each child’s voice is heard. At Lisnadill we encourage our children to work hard and achieve their full potential. The main aim of our pastoral care throughout the school is to ensure that our children are cared for and that they are learning skills which will prepare them for a successful adult beyond their time at Lisnadill Primary School.

**Aims for Pastoral Care at Lisnadill Primary School**

* To create a sense of belonging amongst all strands of our school community.
* To develop an atmosphere of mutual respect and caring throughout the school.
* To provide an environment that will enableeach child to develop their self-confidence, their self-esteem and a positive self-image.
* Exchange of views, ideas, attitude in an atmosphere of trust.
* Implementation of a Behaviour Policy which creates a full sense of justice and fair play amongst the school community.
* Work in partnership with parents and the wider community for the mutual benefit of all and to overcome difficulties which may be encountered.

The pastoral care of our pupils will be developed and enhanced through a wide range of activities and opportunities. These include:

* The involvement of all pupils in presentations and school productions.
* The recognition of achievements in and out of school.
* The celebration of children’s work.
* Class duties/responsibilities – School Council, Lunch Time Heroes, House Captains, Librarians.
* The involvement of pupils in charities and supporting our local community.
* Extra - curricular activities.
* Extended sport and instrumental programme.
* Circle time/PDMU lessons.
* Parent / Teacher meetings.
* Educational visits and residential trips.
* The full involvement of pupils in their classroom rules, rewards and consequences – house points system
* The on – going review of all pastoral care policies and procedures
* Events throughout the year which continue to reinforce important pastoral information. – Anti – Bullying Week, Internet Safety and NSPCC PANTS week, Health and Well Being Week. These areas are also reviewed with pupils on many occasions throughout the school year.

**Working With Parents**

In Lisnadill Primary School we value the close collaboration with parents in all aspects of school life. We encourage parents to bring any areas of concern firstly to the class teacher’s attention as soon as possible. Should problems or misunderstandings arise, we will listen and work with parents. Support of our parents is vital. We value greatly this partnership and encourage our home school links through:

* Induction days for P1 children and parents in June
* Information Evening for P1 parents in September
* Open Night in December
* Parent consultations P1 – P7 in Term 1
* Parent consultations for P1 – P6 in Term 2
* Information Evenings regarding residential trips
* P7 Transfer Interviews in February
* P7 Records of Achievement
* Written reports for P1 – P7 in Term 3
* Regular communication with home, via Parentmail containing school information, events and achievements.
* Use of Seesaw (P1/2), Parnetmail, School website
* Verbal contact by phone when necessary
* Parents always welcome in school
* Our PTA who are very actively involved through educational , social and fundraising activities.
* Motus Learning - Online workshop for parents for Emotional Intelligence

**External Agencies**

We acknowledge the importance of many external agencies who may be used in order to support our children. These may include:

* Education Authority
* Educational Psychologist
* RISE NI
* Paediatric ASD Services
* Behaviour Support Team
* Outreach Professionals
* School Nurse and other Health Agencies
* NSPCC
* Barnardos
* School Counselling Service
* Charitable Associations
* Board Of Governors
* Love for Life

**Pastoral Care Personnel**

Whilst every member of staff in Lisnadill Primary School is concerned with the pastoral care of our learners, some have been assigned specific roles.

* Rev D. McComb – Chairperson of Board of Governors
* Mrs J Pillow – Child Protection Governor
* Mr Savage – Principal, Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection, Pastoral Care
* Mrs Speers – Designated teacher for Child Protection, Pastoral Care
* Miss Proctor – Special Educational Needs Co -ordinator
* Mrs Walker – ICT Co-ordinator (Internet Safety)
* Some members of staff may be assigned as a key adult to work with specific children at times when required

**Links with other subjects and policies**

Pastoral care is planned and linked through all areas of school life. It is addressed more specifically through PDMU, Health Education, Religious education and PE. Pastoral care is inherent in the following policies:

* Personal Development and Mutual Understanding Policy
* Child Protection Policy
* Anti – Bullying Policy
* RSE Policy
* ICT Policy
* Attendance Policy
* Positive Behaviour Policy