

Pastoral Care Policy

Rationale

St Patrick's Academy is committed to the development and growth of the whole person. In our pastoral care work we seek to create a community that develops self respect in our pupils, leading to a respect for others.

Aims

St Patrick's Academy believes that every pupil has a right to feel safe and secure at all times. We will actively promote a Pastoral Care ethos which allows for the development of the whole person, and which leads to every pupil making good choices which will form the basis for a healthy and positive lifestyle.

Pastoral Care will be the setting where our young people will acquire values and standards on the basis of observing these in practice at all levels. We aim to create a caring and secure environment where our young people can develop good relationships based on those they experience.

Ethos

Emphasising St Patrick as the patron of our school we will endeavour to be:

- Partners in the pursuit of excellence
- Achievers who reach their full potential
- Team workers who value the contribution of others
- Respecters of human dignity
- Inspirers who set good example
- Creators of a caring and generous community
- Keepers of the faith and tradition.

Professional Counselling

The value of professional counselling should never be underestimated. A counsellor can offer immense support to a young person who needs help and guidance. Our school will endeavour to provide a Professional Counsellor to help our young people to develop a definitive awareness of self. Our counsellor can be contacted at counsellor@stpatricksacademy.ni.sch.uk

Counselling/Relationships

Staff will endeavour to build positive relationships with our young people in order to provide advice and support. However, we acknowledge the need for other support organisations.

Managing External Agencies

We acknowledge the importance of ensuring that any external agencies involved with our school must adhere to the values and ethos of St Patrick's Academy. We ensure contracts are drawn up to inform all contributory parties.

Training and Support

St Patrick's Academy recognises the importance of training for all staff in the establishment of a caring and pastoral community.

Related School Policies

This policy is set within the broader school context of Pastoral Care and as such it should be read in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Anti-Smoking Policy
- Attendance Policy
- Bring Your Own Device Policy
- Community Relations, Equality and Diversity in Education Policy
- Drugs Education Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Health Education Policy
- Healthy Eating Policy
- I.C.T. Policy
- E-safety Policy
- Mobile Phone Policy
- Positive Behaviour Policy (Code of Conduct)
- Punctuality Policy
- Relationships and Sexuality Education Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- School Trips Policy
- Special Educational Needs Policy
- Storage and Management of Medication Policy
- Uniform Policy
- Use of Reasonable Force & Safe Handling Policy

Evaluation and Monitoring

This school recognises and accepts the importance of on-going monitoring and evaluation of all aspects of Pastoral Care at every level. St Patrick's Academy will follow the procedures for self evaluation as outlined in the DE document 'Together Towards Improvement'.

Reviewed June 2016
To be reviewed June 2017