

The Froebelian School

PASTORAL CARE

A Definition

“Pastoral care is concerned with promoting pupils’ personal and social development and fostering positive attitudes:

- Through the quality of teaching and learning
- Through the nature of relationships amongst pupils, teachers and adults other than teachers
- Through arrangements for monitoring pupils’ overall progress, academic, personal and social
- Through specific pastoral support structures and systems, and
- Through extra-curricular activities and the school ethos”

Her Majesty’s Inspectors of Schools (1989)

In Practice

At the Froebelian School we take an holistic approach to education, seeking to foster development and progress for every child in the broadest possible sense. A policy for pastoral care is therefore in a summary of many policies and strategies designed to enable pupils to experience a broad, balanced and nurturing education.

Other Policies

Those policies that have particular relevance to pastoral care are:

- Our statement of ‘Aims, values and ethos’
- Promoting Good Behaviour
- Anti-bullying
- Child protection
- Health and Safety
- PSHE

Pastoral goals

We have identified five specific goals:

1. **To provide every pupil with a personal point of contact.** This important role is the responsibility of the form/class teachers. They are ideally placed to promote the welfare of the whole child.
2. **To provide close and effective liaison with parents/carers.** Again, this is a role largely fulfilled by form/class teachers through regular, informal contact and at parents’ consultations and the like. However, the Head, Deputy Head and Head of Pre-prep maintain an overview of pupil progress and welfare and take a close interest in working closely with parents/carers. Much the same applies to the staff in the School Office who are often involved in helping to provide help, information and advice to parents/carers.
3. **To monitor each child’s progress.** We know how important it is to be aware of progress and achievement across the whole curriculum. In the Juniors

(KS2) with the introduction of some specialist teaching, it is important that we maintain a detailed overview of each child. The form/class teacher largely fulfils this role, regularly exchanging information and discussing pupils' progress with colleagues. The Head, Deputy Head and other senior staff also keep an overview of pupils' progress, particularly through the review of pupil profiles and involvement in work scrutiny.

- 4. To provide support and guidance for pupil achievement.** This complements the third goal in that the monitoring of progress also includes discussion, advice and recommendations for further improvement. This is particularly evident in written reports and at parent consultations when specific targets and/or recommendations for greater progress will be raised.
- 5. To encourage a caring and orderly environment.** We know that children who are happy, secure and confident will have the best chance to reach their full potential. By creating a disciplined and caring environment in which mutual respect is prevalent, we believe that pupils understand what is expected of them and share our ambition that they should be enthusiastic, contented learners.

Christian principles

The Froebelian School is a Christian, non-denominational school which happily welcomes children from a wide variety of faith backgrounds and traditions. Through our RE curriculum we ensure that pupils learn about all the major world faiths with Christianity as the core. Many assemblies are based on the Gospels and the focus is usually on the moral and spiritual meanings. Matters of doctrine, liturgies etc..., are left for home and individual families.

Some assemblies will focus on celebrations or aspects of other world faiths and the RE Co-ordinator periodically invites representatives from different faith groups to lead assemblies. All pupils happily attend assemblies and the vast majority join in celebrations and services such as the Nativity and Carol Service.

Other agencies

Whenever appropriate we seek help and advice from various agencies that might support our pastoral care. These will include the local education authority, the Early Years partnership, social services, police, fire service and other professionals such as educational psychologists.

Conclusion

We seek to educate and nurture the whole child. Our ethos and atmosphere is warm, welcoming and inclusive. We value partnership with parents/carers and the safety and well-being of each pupil is always the top priority.