

Carrdus School

Pastoral Care Policy

Overall aims

The overall aim of this policy is to ensure that:

- The care and welfare of pupils is the school's greatest priority
- That all the policies and procedures that relate to pupils' safeguarding, care and welfare are cohesive and reinforce each other.

Aims

Our pastoral care system has the following aims:

1. To enable pupils to become responsible for their own personal, social, health and emotional development.
2. To produce an atmosphere in which all pupils are confident that they are cared for, liked, valued and respected, regardless of their strengths and weaknesses.
3. To offer sympathetic, effective guidance and counselling to the pupils as and when it is required.
4. To contribute towards strengthening the links between the parents and the school. This recognises that the education of a child is a shared task involving positive contributions from parents/guardians, pupils and teachers.
5. To ensure every child has seamless pastoral care as they progress through the year groups at Carrdus

Links to other policies

The following policies must be read in conjunction with this Pastoral Care Policy:

- Anti-Bullying
- Behaviour
- Safeguarding
- Lost or Uncollected Child
- Key Person (EYFS specific)
- Safe Use of ICT
- Safer Recruitment
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Use of Reasonable Force
- Pastoral Care
- Mental Health Protocol
- PSHEE Education
- SMSC Development
- Fire Risk (Prevention) Policy and Fire Risk Assessment
- Health and Safety
- Nutrition
- First Aid
- Medical Needs

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- Pupil Supervision
- SEN
- Accessibility
- Child on Child Abuse
- Youth Involved Sexual Imagery

All staff

All staff in teaching and non-teaching positions are involved in the pastoral care of all pupils in the school. They do their best to set an example to the children in the way they treat all members of the school community.

Class teacher

Throughout the school the most important link in the pastoral care chain is the class teacher. In Nursery and Reception, the class teachers are also the Key Persons. All staff will tell the class teacher if a child in the class has done something particularly noteworthy. In addition, the class teacher invariably gets to know the children's parents quickly as there are many opportunities to meet on a formal and informal basis.

It is important that all the children at Carrdus know to whom they should turn for support and guidance. This will usually be their class teacher, but it could be another member of staff with whom they have a particular rapport. We check this with them regularly. If children are feeling upset by other adults in school they should be encouraged to talk directly to that adult, but should also feel that they can turn to their class teacher for support if they feel it would be helpful. If a teacher has concerns about a child, this should be first discussed with the Deputy Head/DSL.

Teaching assistants

Teaching Assistants contribute greatly to the pastoral life of the school and have an important role in assisting the class teachers with their pastoral responsibilities.

Deputy Head / DSL

If a matter is sufficiently important, the class teacher may bring it directly to the attention of the Deputy Head/DSL. In some situations, the Head will also be involved, particularly if additional pastoral support is required, or if a case of suspected anti-social behaviour/bullying requires her involvement.

Worries or concerns

Any child who finds a problem too difficult to discuss with a member of staff may be encouraged to talk to their class teacher or any other adult they feel comfortable talking to. We regularly discuss with children the importance of having an adult in school that they feel comfortable in talking to. Well-run PSHE sessions and circle times will give children a great sense of support from both the teacher and their peers when discussing worries or concerns.

Buddy System

Every child in Reception is linked up with a child in Year 6, who will provide support and encouragement both out on the playground and in the classroom as the year progresses.

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Pastoral care records

Pastoral care records are held and managed by the office. Any important information, which is likely to have been shared with the Head, will be placed in this file.

House system

Pastoral care is assisted by our house system, which gives pupils another area of 'belonging'. These are particularly valuable for events where there is an element of competition. From Nursery, pupils are allocated houses:

- Nightingale
- Austen
- Darwin
- Elgar