



Pastoral Care Policy

Pastoral Care lies at the heart of Garden Fields overall policy which seeks to provide a caring, happy environment in which young people can develop to their full potential. It aims to extend pupils' learning skills in line with their moral, social, personal and physical development and thus enable them to manage their present lives and prepare them for adult life in an ever changing society.

AIMS

Through our pastoral care policy we aim:

- To create a caring and secure environment for staff and pupils.
- To create an environment where pupils feel safely able to discuss their feelings and concerns.
- To ensure there is good communication between the school, parents/guardians and external agencies.
- To enhance pupils' self-worth and self-confidence.
- To help pupils value and respect the views of others.
- To help pupils develop self-discipline and encourage positive behaviour.
- To encourage a sense of belonging amongst all members of the school community.
- To support pupils in developing healthy lifestyles.
- To support pupil progress across the curriculum.
- To develop in pupils an awareness of moral standards.
- To encourage pupils to show respect and understanding of those whose culture, beliefs or lifestyle may be different from their own.

Pastoral Care

Successful pastoral care is a partnership between the School and the home. Garden Fields School is committed to developing and maintaining strong links with parents or guardians. Regular formal contact is made through reports and parents evenings. Individual issues are discussed through e-mail (pastoralcare@gardenfields.herts.sch.uk), telephone or meetings at school.

Parents/Guardians are always welcome and are encouraged to contact their child's teacher/the Pastoral Care leader or Head Teacher if they have any concerns or worries. Urgent concerns will be given immediate attention.

Parents/Guardians are encouraged to share concerns about home circumstances or medical matters which may affect their child's work or behaviour in school and allow us to support that child in a caring way. Any information disclosed will be treated as confidential and only passed on to those with a need to know. All staff, teaching and non-teaching, have a responsibility for pastoral care and should endeavour to contribute effectively to establishing and maintaining a climate which is characterised by good relationships and mutual respect.

The School's Anti-bullying Policy and Safeguarding Policy aim to protect members of the school community from physical, social, emotional and intellectual harm. Young people need to grow in their



self-esteem, confidence and independence of thought. They need to become understanding, sympathetic and sensitive to the needs of others and to develop the necessary skills to cope with possible threats to their own safety both within and outside school and to meet with confidence the demands and challenges of adult and working life.

Pastoral Structure

Pastoral Care is an important aspect of school life and we continue to develop this through the following:

- Interaction of child and class teacher
- Close contact of children with InCo, Pastoral Care Leader, Nurture Group leader and SEN support staff
- Training of lunch time supervisory assistants
- Nurture Care for appropriate children
- Individual and small group mentoring/social skills sessions
- Pastoral Care Leader walk-about and open door policy.
- Mediation sessions for disputes
- Class and nurture “Circle Time”
- Whole School Assemblies
- Parental involvement and feedback
- PSHE lessons
- Junior Leadership Team and buddying (peer support)
- The House System and Golden Time rewards
- The Golden Rules
- Worry boxes in all classrooms and a Pastoral Care Post box for children to confidentially post concerns
- The school/parent partnership and “open door” policy
- DBS checks for all regular school helpers and close supervision of school visitors
- Secure gated access system to gain school entry.
- Anti-Bullying and Internet Security Weeks

Pastoral Care should be evident in all aspects of school life. If any situation causes doubt the Head Teacher should be consulted.

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