



*"To enhance each talent.
To meet each need".*

PASTORAL CARE POLICY POLICY

St Colman's P S Saval is a co-educational school with 170 + children age 4-11. It is situated on the outskirts of Newry in a rural area primarily with private home ownership.

Parents and the local community show a strong supportive pro-active interest in all aspects of school life.

Pastoral Care is concerned with promoting children's personal and social development and fostering positive attitudes.

These aims are achieved by the quality of teaching and learning and the nature of relationships between children and teachers and others.

- It is important that the Principal and staff foster an ethos and set of expectations, which promote good relationships and learning.
- There should be harmonious relations between children and teachers where they treat one another with respect and courtesy.
- Teachers are encouraged to employ and monitor positive teaching techniques and promote classroom strategies where children's learning is developed according to their individual needs.
- Classrooms should be seen as a stimulating working environment and classroom learning seen as satisfying and productive.
- Children should enjoy school, be happy and see it as a safe and satisfying place.
- School should provide an ordered environment in which children feel able to work without interruptions or intimidation.
- Parents should feel that they are being kept informed and up to date about their children.

CORE VALUES

- We support the principle that every child has the right to feel safe, happy and free from harm in school and we value the contribution every child can make to school life.
- Every child is special.
- Central to the creation of this environment is a commitment to the Catholic Ethos and the recognition of the worth and value of each child and a cultivation of self-respect so that the child may accept his / her appropriate responsibilities and show respect for others.

- Children have the right to develop to their full potential within the limits of the school's resources and their achievements should be recognised.
- This is done through our weekly assemblies and reward schemes eg. Pupil of the Week, Golden Table etc.
- We believe that every child should learn to respect their school, other children, their teachers, visitors to the school, property and their environment.
- Children should be helped to recognise the responsibility they have to contribute to the development of this ethos.

STAFF

- As a staff we are committed to working for the good of the school.
- Our staff bring a range of experience and abilities to the school and each member's contribution is valued and appreciated.
- All members of staff should be treated with courtesy, fairness and respect and their opinions listened to and valued.
- Every staff member is entitled to support in his or her work, particularly in situations of difficulty or crisis.
- Every staff member is entitled to a clear definition of his / her role and responsibilities within the school.
- Teachers should feel valued and supported in order to promote and maintain good staff morale.

PARENTS

- Parents are vital partners in providing the best possible education for their children and are indeed the first educators of our children.
- Whilst parents have an important contribution to make to our school practice, the professional judgment of teachers must always be respected and parents should support the work of the school by promoting and reinforcing its values at home.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

- The Board of Governors has a responsibility to establish a clear vision of the school and its responsibilities to the children in its care.
- They should develop with teachers, parents, children and themselves whole policies that reflect the caring ethos of the school.

- They should ensure that policies and procedures reflect fairness, justice and equality to all.
- They must provide a safe, secure and comfortable learning and working environment.

OTHER ADULTS WORKING IN OUR SCHOOL

- Other adults will lead by example in ensuring that each child is able to achieve their full potential by the demonstration of good relationships with all persons in the school.

THE COMMUNITY

- The local and wider community has an important contribution to make to the education we provide in St Colman's Saval.
- We seek and appreciate the contributions of our Parish Priest, Saval GAC, Educational Advisory and Support Staff Coaches, Health Professionals, Students on placement, visitors from various charities and other professionals; e.g. local fire service etc.

ORGANISATION OF PASTORAL CARE

- Every member of staff in the school (teaching and ancillary) has responsibility for ensuring the health, safety and well being of children.
- Class teachers will seek to develop relationships of trust and understanding within the classroom and hold primary responsibility for the pastoral care of the children in their classes.

THE DESIGNATED - TEACHER AND DEPUTY DESIGNATED - TEACHER

- Are the main links between members of the school community and external agencies.
- They hold additional responsibility for child protection.
- The Designated - Teacher is the main source of information and advice in relation to child protection for members of the school community and maintains records in relation to this.
- An information form is completed by the parents of every child and provides information on pastoral and medical matters. This information is passed on to the relevant class teacher.
- The school maintains a register of concerns held by the Designated - Teacher. This contains records of concern expressed by children or

teachers reported to the Designated - Teacher together with actions if any, taken by the school in response to these concerns.

- All parents are provided with a copy of our Pastoral Care Policy.
- Parents may make an appointment to see a teacher at a time that is mutually convenient.

OUR DESIGNATED - TEACHER IS:
MRS MONA MCGREEVY

OUR DEPUTY DESIGNATED - TEACHER IS:
MRS VERONICA KENNEDY

PASTORAL CARE
CODE OF PRACTICE

Pupil of parent or ancillary staff



Class Teacher



Designated Teacher or Deputy Designated Teacher

Principal / Vice Principal



Advice from Educational Welfare Officer

or

Social Services

or

Child Protection Team

- We promote the ethos of our school by teaching and promoting the Golden Rules designed to encourage respect for ourselves and respect for others.
- Personal Safety is also addressed through our contact with outside agencies e.g.
 - ❖ The Fire Service
 - ❖ The SELB Road Safety Officers
 - ❖ R E Alive O Programme
 - ❖ Science and Environment
 - ❖ Health Issues etc.
- Running alongside the Pastoral Care Policy we have our Policies for Child Protection, Special Needs, Anti-Bullying, Positive Behaviour and Healthy Living.
- Children, teachers and parents see extra-Curricular activities and School Trips alike as opportunities for learning outside the classroom, which are both enjoyable and beneficial.
- These activities are complimented and supported by Saval Gaelic Athletic Club.
- Parents may telephone or call to make an appointment to speak to a teacher or the Principal at a mutually convenient time.
- Our liaison with External Agencies include:-
 - Health Agencies
 - Dental Agencies
 - E.W.O
 - School Psychology Service
 - Social Services.

This Policy has been reviewed, amended and updated with the Staff on

Principal_____

Chairperson of the Board of Governors_____