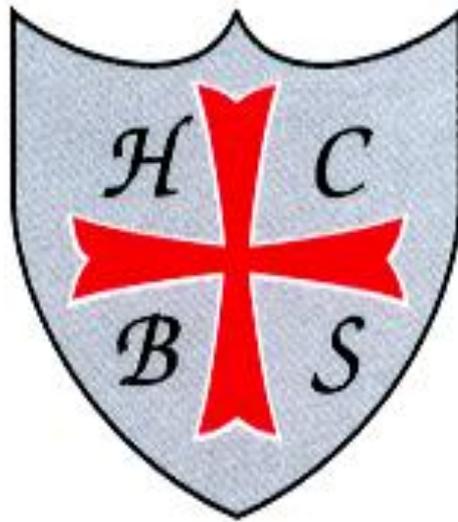
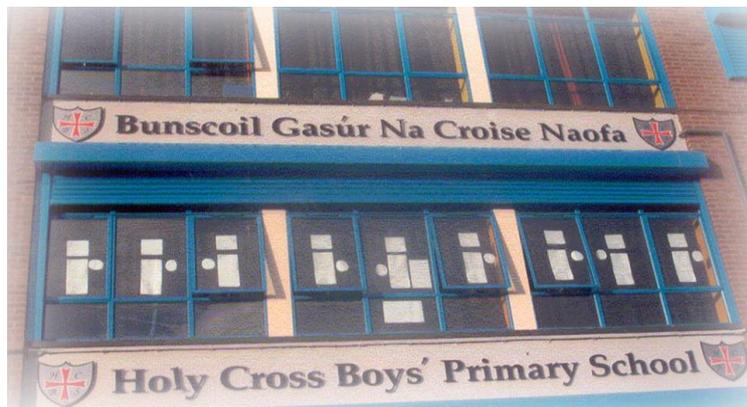


Holy Cross Boys'

BUNSCOIL GASÚR NA
CROISE NAOFA



Holy Cross Boys' Primary School



Pastoral Care Policy

PASTORAL CARE

Mission Statement

At Holy Cross Boys' School we aim to create a calm and caring community where teachers teach and children learn.

Each child will be encouraged to fulfil his intellectual, spiritual, physical, social aesthetic and emotional potential. Central to the creation of this environment is a commitment to Christian values, the recognition of the worth and value of each child and the cultivation of self respect so that the child may accept his appropriate responsibilities and show respect for others. The welfare of the child is uppermost.

At Holy Cross Boys we aim to establish a community where pupils, teachers, parents and support staff enjoy a sense of belonging and have an important part to play.

Definition

By Pastoral Care we mean:

The network of relationships that is fostered throughout the whole school community to support the learner irrespective of his ability, home, background, attitude or behaviour and the responsibility that lies with all staff to promote quality relationships for effective teaching and learning to take place.

Rationale

The aims of this policy have been formulated in recognition that school programmes and practice should be promoting the following:

1. The climate in which each child can fully benefit from his education
2. Effective teaching and learning for all pupils
3. The Personal and Social Development of each child
4. The support required by children in a rapidly changing world
5. A broad and balanced curriculum for all pupils
6. That each child should reach his full potential academically, socially and emotionally

The Pastoral Care Policy Aims To:

1. Create a secure and caring environment for all personnel in the school
2. Promote the worth and dignity of all members of the school community
3. Promote positive and supportive relationships throughout the school community so that effective teaching and learning can take place
4. Help children accept responsibility for and consequences of their actions
5. Develop children's social and life skills
6. Anticipate and obviate problems which individual children might experience in school

Statements of Implications

Evidence of the Pastoral Dimension will be reflected in:

1. The School Ethos
2. The worth and value of each individual
3. The taught component
4. The relationship and partnership with parents
5. The involvement of outside agencies
6. The programme of staff development

Management and Organisation (Roles and Responsibilities)

Each individual of the school community has a pastoral role in the school:

1. The class teacher, through everyday implementation of the curriculum, will involve those aspects of the pastoral dimension usually described as:
 - (i) Knowing and caring for pupils
 - (ii) Promoting a positive behavioural ethos
 - (iii) Identify pastoral activities
 - (iv) Record keeping of an academic and social nature

2. Mr Curran and Mrs Reel will oversee policy implementation and review.

Links with Parents

We have links with parents through:

1. Whole class meetings between parents and teacher in October
2. Individual interviews between class teacher and parent – November
3. Open Day
4. Primary One Induction
5. Parents Group
6. Workshops
7. Field Trip Supervision
8. Written communications:
 - (a) Notes informing parents of days off, events in school, concerts etc
 - (b) Prospectus
 - (c) Report on each child annually
 - (d) Summaries of school policies for each pupil
 - (e) Monthly newsletter
 - (f) Calls to home by Principal/Vice-Principal or a meeting with principal as requested

Links with other Agencies

The E.W.O calls monthly or on request and checks on attendance, following up where necessary.

The school nurse checks the hearing and sight of different year groups and conducts P1 medicals. He is also available on request as problems arise. He will ensure training for teachers in common medical conditions eg Asthma, Diabetes etc.

Social Services have contact with school regarding certain pupils when necessary and can be contacted by us if we feel concern about any pupil.

School Psychologies calls at regular intervals and tests pupils who are causing concern because of behavioural or learning difficulties.

School Liason Group meets once per term (or as necessary) to discuss issues or concerns. Included are the EWO, SENCO, School Nurse, Social Worker and the Education Psychologist.

Resources

Parents Room available for meetings (individually or small group) between parent and teacher. It is also the base for Parent Workshops.

Vice-Principal/SENCO will facilitate meetings or deal with enquiries or concerns.

Staff Development

The Pastoral Care Team will support members of staff in Implementing the Policy and identifying any staff training needs in line with the school Staff Development Policy.

These needs will be met through school based INSET and external courses provided by outside agencies.

COMET

Primary Movement

Circle Time

Teachers have attended relevant First Aid Courses

Regular Health & Safety Meetings (risk assessments, fire drills)