



# Restorative Practices

**Aim:**

*It is our aim to explicitly teach, model and actively promote appropriate behaviour in all situations.*

**Definition:**

*Restorative Practices involves the development and enhancement of relationships and social and emotional competencies.*

*Restorative Practices stresses the importance of relationships and seeks to restore these relationships when they have been damaged.*

*It encourages children to:*

- 1. Understand the choices they make*
- 2. Take responsibility for their behaviour*
- 3. Repair any damage and / or harm*

**Belief:**

*In the course of any school day, students and teachers, experience and negotiate many relationships, sometimes with ease, sometimes not. When relationships develop into conflicts they require resolution, forgiveness and healing.*

*Restorative practices helps students learn from their mistakes and reconcile and resolve problems with others.*

*We believe that students require language and social skills to express and handle conflict and to become emotionally intelligent young people.*

*We believe that Restorative Practice needs to be embedded within all levels of relationships across the school. We view inappropriate behaviour not as school rule breaking, but instead as harm to relationships within the school.*

## **Principles**

*The underlying principles of a restorative approach to student behaviour include:*

- *Separating the deed from the doer - focus on the behaviour not the person.*
- *Focusing on making amends – making things right.*
- *Forgiveness takes time.*
- *Both parties need to be involved in the restoration of the relationship.*
- *Every incident of wrongdoing or conflict is seen as an opportunity for learning.*

*It is hoped that consistent use of these practises within our school will change attitudes and promote a philosophical shift in thinking about students and problem behaviours: away from the use of punishment to the management of situations using a restorative approach.*

## **Aims:**

- *To encourage students to learn from their mistakes, reconcile and resolve problems.*
- *To recognise and manage the underlying causes of behaviour.*
- *For teachers to facilitate a repair process using restorative language.*
- *To maintain healthy relationships within the school community.*
- *To support the development of a positive learning environment within the classroom as well as a happy and safe playground.*

## **Restorative Practice Implementation**

*The Leadership Team will oversee the implementation of Restorative Practice with the support of the Student Wellbeing Leader and all staff members.*

## **Key Messages for the Restorative Philosophy**

1. *We must take responsibility for the wrong things that we do.*
2. *We must understand how other people are affected by our wrong doing.*
3. *We must repair relationships after we have done something wrong.*

## **The Underlying Goals of Restorative Practice are:**

1. *To keep children safe.*
2. *To teach children social competence.*
3. *To teach children to take responsibility for their actions.*