

## Vision and Values

Dunecht School will work towards building an ethos of mutual respect, trust and support within our community.

We will work together to achieve the best possible environment for work, learning and leisure.

As a school, our vision is to have respect permeating all aspects of school life for the on-going benefit of our school and the community.

Through an ethos of mutual respect we will develop:

- A supportive and effective home / school relationship
- Good teamwork
- Open communication
- Everyone's potential to achieve
- Equality
- Quality learning experiences



### Dunecht School is working towards becoming a UNICEF Rights Respecting School

Building and nurturing relationships is at the heart of a successful and happy school.

Repairing the harm done to relationships in the event of conflict and inappropriate behaviour is a high priority.

Providing children with the space, time and structure to independently make connections and take responsibility for their actions is essential.

By adopting Restorative Practices we aim to promote an environment where people want to work, are more likely to achieve and less likely to be or to feel excluded.

#### Some helpful websites:

- <http://www.peermediation.org/>
- <http://www.transformingconflict.org/>
- <http://www.sacro.org.uk/>
- <http://www.restorativejustice.org.uk/>

## Information for Parents and Carers

# Restorative Practice

# Dunecht School



## Restorative Practice

### What is it?

A Restorative Approach aims to move away from assigning blame and punishment and move towards repairing the harm done to relationships through discussion with everyone involved.

In a Restorative approach the questions asked are:

- What happened?
- Who has been affected and how?
- How can we put right the harm?
- What can we do differently next time to avoid this situation happening again?

In order for a truly Restorative Approach to work certain skills and values are crucial. These are:

- Remaining impartial and non-judgemental
- Respecting the perspective of all involved
- Actively and empathetically listening
- Developing rapport amongst participants
- Empowering participants to come up with solutions rather than suggesting or imposing ideas
- Creative questioning
- Warmth
- Compassion
- Patience

Restorative justice is defined not in terms of those who are to blame but in terms of all those who are affected by an incident being involved in finding a mutually acceptable way forward.

Everyone affected by behaviour, a conflict situation or a problem has the opportunity to:

- Talk openly and honestly without the fear of being punished
- Give their account of the incident.
- Explain how they have been affected
- Describe how they are currently feeling
- Talk about what can be done to repair the harm
- Improve their own emotional literacy

## Restorative Conversations

Restorative conversations are a conflict resolution tool that communities can use to help children sort out some of their conflicts on their own.

Restorative conversations, as with other support schemes, can contribute greatly to improving the learning environment in schools. Negative behaviours such as bullying can be significantly reduced.

**R**esponsible citizens

**E**ffective contributors

**S**uccessful learners

**P**ositive attitudes

**E**nvironmentally aware

**C**onfident individuals

**T**echnology literate