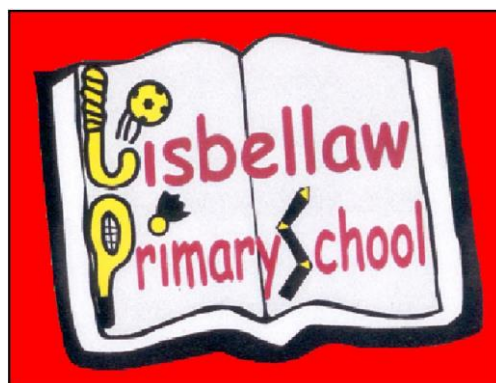


Lisbellaw Primary School



Pastoral Care Policy

Chair of Governors _____ Date _____

Principal _____ Date _____

Review Date - October 2025

Pastoral Care Policy and Practice

Lisbellaw Primary School

This document is based on Every School a Good School (DE 2009) and sets out our school's policy and practice in relation to the care of pupils.

Our Vision states "We will all work together in a caring environment where tolerance, respect for others and a readiness to listen are essential."

Child Centred provision

At Lisbellaw Primary School we aim to meet the needs and aspirations of the pupils within the school by:

- Valuing each pupil and putting them at the centre of education.

We promote equality of opportunity, high-quality learning, a concern for individual pupils and a respect for diversity by:

- Providing a modern learning environment with disability access.
- Welcoming all newcomers to our school and supporting new children with a "Buddy" system.

We seek to meet the additional education and other needs of pupils and to help them over come barriers to learning by:

- Promoting good attendance.
- Promoting positive behaviour.
- Special Educational Needs provision.

We believe in and support pupil participation and involvement in decisions about school life. We do this through:

- Circle Time.
- Class meetings and School Council.
- Green Finger Gang.
- Questionnaires completed by pupils about teaching and learning.
- Plenary sessions and pupil feedback about teaching and learning (linked to AFL).

We prepare and support children in their transition to Primary School by:

- Inviting Parents and new pupils to an Introductory Meeting
- Children from Nursery School and Busy Bees attending the School Christmas Production and Special Events.
- Inviting children from Nursery School to attend Foundation and Key Stage 1 Assembly during the Summer Term.
- The Year 1 Class Teacher visiting the Nursery School during the Summer Term
- The Nursery School children visiting the Year1 classroom and meeting the Year 1 Teacher and Assistant during the Summer Term.

We prepare and support children in their transition to Secondary School by:

- Welcoming staff from Secondary Schools who come to talk to Year 7 children and invite them to their Open Evenings.
- Fostering good links with all feeder Secondary Schools and encouraging children to attend Open Evenings.
- Children visiting their new Secondary school during their last term in Primary School.
- Welcoming visiting staff from Secondary Schools who come to prepare children for their transition.

The school follows Child Protection guidelines fully.

- Children know about keeping safe by taking part in activities during Anti-Bullying week and Internet Safety Day. There is a Keeping Safe and Anti-Bullying noticeboard.
- At all main entrances to the school the names and of Designated and Deputy Designated Teachers for Child Protection are displayed.
- All staff are trained annually.
- All parents are given a copy of the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and Child Protection Information leaflets – these are also displayed on the school website.
- Parent volunteers and all coaches who come into school are vetted.

We support children in making healthy choices and through the provision of a healthy environment.

- We have a First Aid and Health and Safety Policy.
- We have a Food in Schools Policy.
- Children eat Healthy Food – Breakfast Club / breaks / school dinners / water/ milk.
- We have excellent play facilities both indoor and outdoors and encourage all children to take part in Physical Activity.

High Quality Teaching and Learning

We provide a broad and relevant curriculum.

PDMU:

- is a statutory learning area within the N.I. curriculum. It is timetabled and planned for by each class.
- is taught as a discreet Area of Learning and connected to other areas as appropriate, through themes, topics, World Around Us, R.E. and P.E. programmes.
- linked to Healthy Breaks, Eco-schools, Playground Pals, Health Promoting School Award, Munchbox Challenge, School Council, Clubs, After School Activities, Cycling Proficiency, and Emotional Intelligence.

We promote positive relationships between teachers and their pupils and with other school-based staff through;

- Good relationships in class – Golden Rules, rewards, sanctions
- Teachers and other staff – e.g. playground supervisors and teachers working together with pupils in Playground Pals.
- Staff Code of Conduct

Teachers use a range of teaching strategies that respond to the diversity within the classroom such as:

- Circle Time
- Talking Partners
- Group work
- Teamwork
- Collaborative learning.
- Developing Personal Capabilities – Self Management and Working with Others

Teachers reflect on their own work and the outcomes of individual pupils through:

- Use of staff planning/staff meetings/monitoring relating to teaching and learning and pupil progress and achievement in relevant areas of the curriculum such as PDMU
- Classroom observation and assessment of pupils' personal development and behaviour
- Class teachers' consideration of pastoral issues where pupil performance is not meeting expectations e.g. falling standardised scores.

Effective Leadership

Governors understand their responsibility for the Pastoral Care of pupils. They do this by:

- Monitoring and evaluating the strategies in place for promoting Pastoral Care, Health, Well Being and Attendance, contained in the School Development Plan, including consulting with the School Council/ pupils and parents.
- Consulting ESAGS – The Role of the Governor.
- Child Protection training
- Monitoring the reporting of behaviour, suspension and exclusion.
- Termly report to the B.O.G. and annual review of Child Protection.

In relation to Pastoral Care, we support the professional development of staff and sharing and learning from best practice by:

- Staff Training, Exceptional Closure days for pastoral matters.
- Sharing good practice – visits to other schools, hosting visits by other schools
- Relevant school awards and accreditation e.g. Health Promoting School Award, Eco school Green Flag Award, Dyslexia Friendly School Award, Investors in People (Silver Award), Young Enterprise – Certificate of Excellence.

We provide the resources needed to support Pastoral Care through:

- Effective staff supervision of pupils and deployment of staff.
- Classroom resources.
- Play resources and facilities.
- Referring to other Health Professionals and links with Outside Agencies.

We monitor and evaluate our Pastoral Care practices in a number of ways by:

- Reviewing the School Development Plan.

- Monitoring and evaluation of the Pastoral Care Action Plan, if applicable, by the Pastoral Care Co-ordinator.
- Using SIMS for monitoring attendance.
- Involving the School Council in monitoring and evaluation.
- Pupil, parent and staff questionnaires.
- Plenary sessions and pupil feedback to teachers about teaching and learning.

A School Connected To Its Local Community

Good relationships and communication between the school and its parents and the wider community are crucial to our pupils' health and wellbeing, learning and achievement. These are developed in the following way:

- Welcoming parents into school e.g. school celebrations, to discuss problems etc.
- Programmes which support parents as learners and partners in their children's education. Paired Reading / Maths, Information Evenings, I.E.P. meetings, Parent / Pupil / Teacher meetings in October. Other meetings such as Internet Safety / Dyslexia Friendly Evenings.
- Work of the P.T.A.
- Placing documents on school website e.g. Board of Governor Report, policies, prospectus etc.
- Monthly newsletter.
- Annual Reviews of pupils who have a Statement of S.E.N.
- Open Day – prospective parents can view a working school.
- Clergy from local community and other lay people visiting to lead School Assembly.
- School Complaints procedure – leaflet circulated to parents / available through school website.
- School website.
- Sports coaches etc. who come into school from Fermanagh District Council, Irish Football Association, Irish Rugby Football Union, etc

We have good relationships and communication between the school and the education agencies that support pupil's health and wellbeing, learning and achievement, namely:

- Education Authority Services E.g. Autism, SEBD, Behaviour Support, CASS, Learning Support, Educational Psychology, Educational Welfare Officer, Child Protection, etc
- Social Services

We have good links with other relevant statutory and voluntary agencies that support pupil's health and wellbeing, learning and achievement. These are:

- Dental Services, School Nurse, Medical Staff, Speech Therapy, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Diabetic Nurse,
- MAST
- Social Services and PSNI/ Child Protection.
- NSPCC, Child line

The school is involved in specific programmes that meet the needs of the community and nearby schools. These are:

- Shared Education Programme

- Transition (pre-school to primary and primary to post primary)

| Review Date | Changes made | By whom | Date shared with staff |
|--------------|---|-----------|------------------------|
| October 2020 | DT/DDT/SENCO name changes | Principal | November 2020 |
| October 2023 | Minor changes – update roles and responsibilities | Principal | October 2023 |

Appendix 1: Related Policies

Admission Criteria

Anti – Bullying

Child Protection

Code of Conduct (staff)

Child Collection

Complaints Procedure for Parents

Critical Incident

Curriculum Policies for R.E and Teaching and Learning

Drugs Education

Food in Schools

Health and Safety

Positive Behaviour

Special Educational Needs

Use of Reasonable Force

Appendix 2: Related Pastoral Roles and Responsibilities

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Designated Teacher for Child Protection | Mrs S Auterson |
| Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection | Mr J Kilfedder |
| Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection | Mrs G Beavers |
| Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection (nursery) | Mrs G Saunders |
| Governor for Child Protection | Mr G Black |
| Pastoral Care coordinator | Mrs S Auterson |
| PDMU coordinator | Mrs S Auterson |
| SENCO | Mrs J Foy |
| School Council Link Teacher | Mrs S Auterson |
| Anti – Bullying coordinator | Mrs S Auterson |
| Drugs Education coordinator | Mrs S Auterson |

Appendix 3: Pupil Pastoral Promises



The Governors, teachers and other adults who work in school make these promises.

We will ask what you need and try to provide these things.

We will help you with any problems you have with your learning.

We will tell you how you are getting on with your work and how to make it better.

We will make sure your parents know how to help you with your work and tell them how you are getting on at school.

We will get other people to help you if you need special help.

We will have good resources to help you learn, relax and play.

We will be fair to you all and treat you all with respect.

We will involve you in decisions and pay attention to what you say.

We will keep you safe and make school a healthy place.

We will make it enjoyable learning how to be safe, happy and healthy.

We will make sure adults and pupils try to get on well with each other.