

# THE APOLLO EDUCATION PROJECT

## The Apollo Education Project: Pastoral Care Policy

Policies at The Apollo Education Project are written in accordance with the five outcomes contained within Every Child Matters:

- ⌚ Being healthy
- ⌚ Staying safe
- ⌚ Enjoying and achieving
- ⌚ Making a positive contribution
- ⌚ Achieving economic wellbeing

An effective Pastoral Care system is required as a result of the rapid changes taking place within society. Our children require all the skills necessary to deal with the rising pressures of media, family, education and peer pressures that they encountered in their daily lives.

Pastoral Care is composed of different policies, programmes and procedures which encourage each individual child to develop to their full potential by catering for their spiritual, moral, emotional, intellectual, physical and social needs in a safe and secure environment.

### **Aims**

- ⌚ A well educated child, interested in learning and with a keen sense of personal worth.
- ⌚ A child who is confident in relationships with peers, parents, teachers and other adults.
- ⌚ A child who is able to cope with success and failure; joy and sorrow; the ups and downs of everyday life.
- ⌚ A child with a responsible attitude towards self and others.
- ⌚ A child with a fundamental understanding of social skills necessary for adult life.

### **Specific Issues**

To implement our Pastoral Care Policy, four specific issues have been addressed;

- a) Ethos
- b) Relationships
- c) Values
- c) Self-esteem

### **Ethos**

Our Project's ethos contributes effectively to pastoral care by:

- 1\* developing good sustaining relationships among staff and pupils, parents and the wider community.
- 2\* parents being aware of and having confidence in the pastoral care arrangements.
- 3\* using positive approaches to promote and maintain good standards of discipline.

### **Relationships**

Through our positive relationships in the Project with parents and the wider community, we aim to foster self respect, self discipline, tolerance, equality and fairness to ensure that each individual feels valued and cared for at all times.

### **Values**

Through the daily experiences, in addition to curriculum activities, all staff aim to communicate positive values and beliefs. These values include for example, sharing, taking your turn, listening, being grateful, good manners, honesty, forgiveness, reconciliation and healing.

### **Self Esteem**

To promote our children's positive self-esteem we will encourage our children to think positively about themselves and to accept their own uniqueness. The Project will provide opportunities for the children to feel valued and important by creating an awareness of the positive contribution they can make towards the Project and the community.

### **Personal Safety**

Through our pastoral care policy we aim to develop our pupil's responsibility for his/her safety in a variety of situations within and outside the Project environment. We will develop this through the curriculum and highlight in appropriate policies, i.e. Child Protection, Discipline, Anti-Bullying, Drugs, Health and Safety Education, First Aid.

### **Implementation of Pastoral Care Policy**

#### **Roles and Responsibilities**

The Managing Director will hold overall responsibility for the development and implementation of the Pastoral Care Policy. The Centre Manager is responsible for ensuring that Pastoral Care is forefront in Development Plan agenda and will monitor and evaluate its effectiveness. In addition the Managing Director will have the responsibility of initiating appropriate staff training.

How each teacher can contribute to pastoral care.

All staff will contribute by helping children to make informed decisions, about issues in terms of 'right' and 'wrong' remaining sensitive to the beliefs of others. They will build up pupils' self-esteem, encourage them to be assertive to resist peer pressure. Staff must avoid sarcasm, belittling, humiliation etc and help pupils to alleviate success.

## **Monitoring and Evaluating**

To ensure the Pastoral Care is working effectively in the Project we intend to continually monitor and evaluate and review the procedures and practice. We value the contribution that can be made by staff, parents and pupils to affect appropriate change when necessary. This will be achieved through:

- 4\* teacher / parent interviews
- 5\* SEN reviews
- 6\* induction days
- 7\* staff meetings

## **Staff Training**

Inset training will be given to staff when required. All staff will be encouraged to attend in-service training days. Through the Managing Director, all staff will be informed of all D.O.E. recommended changes.

## **Resources**

The Managing Director has overall responsibility for maintaining and acquiring resources to deliver the policies effectively.

The maintenance of the Project environment and the provision of a safe accommodation will ultimately be with the Managing Director and Centre Manager.

## **Range of Pastoral Activities**

The primary aim of supervision is to ensure safety at all times for all of the pupils between 9.00 am and 2.30 pm each day and during extra-curricular activities. New pupils to the Project are welcomed by the Managing Director and Centre Manager.

To be reviewed: June 2017