



# Dundonald High School

Policy Document Title: Pastoral Care Policy

To be read in conjunction with:

Pastoral...  
Positive Behaviour Policy  
Anti- Bullying Policy  
Health and Safety Policy  
Child Protection Policy

Updated:

February 2018

To be reviewed:

February 2021

***“A caring school at the heart of the community, encouraging all to be the best that they can be.”***

**Pastoral Care in Dundonald High School**

**All young people, from whatever background, have a right to be valued and respected, to be educated in a secure and caring environment, and to have their abilities and talents nurtured and developed to their full potential.**

*(Department of Education” Pastoral Care in Schools”)*

Dundonald High School Pastoral Care Policy meets the core purposes of the school and is a direct result of consultation with staff, governors, pupils and parents.

### **Our Ethos and Vision:**

***“A caring school at the heart of the community, encouraging all to be the best that they can be.”***

Pastoral care is, in essence, the school’s ethos in action. However, this ethos will not come about by chance. In Dundonald High School we believe that the Principal, Senior Leadership Team, Staff, Pupils and Parents must achieve it by promoting an atmosphere of mutual care and respect for all. In particular, and of key importance, is the quality of interaction between teacher and pupil and the creation of a positive climate within the school community where every individual feels valued and cared for at all times. The pupils’ welfare will always be paramount and override all other considerations.

### **Principles Underpinning the Policy**

The whole school community, (Both teaching and non teaching Staff, Governors, Parents and Pupils), will work together to:

- Provide a positive school ethos and a caring, supportive atmosphere striving to emphasise the positive rather than the negative.
- Maintain the highest standards of Teaching and Learning
- Value all within the school community as being of equal worth regardless of difference.
- Treat all fairly and with respect – embracing diversity of race, gender, religion and disability.
- Incorporate current Human Rights legislation and government policies as directed by the Education Authority.
- Reflect a collegial and consultative approach.
- Respond to the concerns, fears and worries of all parties.
- Implement the policy with consistency, compassion and rigour.
- Create a working environment, which is conducive to learning and a positive place to be. (We believe that good discipline stems more from active encouragement and praise than it does from an effective system of sanctions.)
- Monitor health and safety of the whole school community to ensure the safety of all and support each other.
- Identify, address and support special educational needs.
- Recognise the need to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the policy.

**Who is Responsible for Pastoral Care? (And who can be contacted if there is a pastoral concern).**

The whole school community has responsibility for Pastoral Care within Dundonald High School. The Principal, (Mr Ken Perry), and the School Governors have overall responsibility for the quality of Pastoral Care within the school. Their role is to review procedures and ensure that:

- The Pastoral Care Policy is clear and is being implemented in practice
- Staffing ratios are adequate
- There is sufficient staff training in pastoral matters.
- Supporting school policies are in place and monitored and reviewed regularly e.g. Health and Safety Policy, Positive Behaviour Policy etc.

## **CONTACTS**

Head of Year 8 – Mrs McCullough

Head of Year 9 – Ms Adair

Head of Year 10 – Miss Bailie

Head of Year 11 – Mrs Robinson

Head of Year 12 – Miss Johnston

Vice-Principal – Ms Bird

Principal Mr Ken Perry

School Secretary (to arrange an appointment)

## **Safeguarding/Child Protection issues:**

Designated Child Protection Coordinator – Mrs McCullough

Deputy Designated Child Protection Coordinator – Miss Davidson

Governor Child Protection Coordinator- Mrs Watson

## Rights and Responsibilities

*Dundonald High School believes that the Whole School Community has an important role to play in ensuring the highest standards of Pastoral Care. Within those roles everyone has rights and equally important responsibilities as outlined in the example below:*

Rights	Responsibilities
<p><b><u>Pupils have the right to:</u></b>            Be educated in a safe and stimulating environment.            Be treated fairly, consistently and with respect.            Work and play within clearly defined and fairly administered codes of conduct.            Be consulted about matters that affect them, and have their views listened to and, as far as possible, acted upon.            Have a Student Council to bring their general concerns to the attention of school management.</p>	<p><b><u>To enjoy these rights pupils must:</u></b>            Respect the rights of others and therefore not engage in bullying.            Ensure they do not keep other pupils from being taught or from learning.            Co-operate with teachers, assistants and with their peers, showing respect at all times.            Abide by the school rules on discipline and acceptable behaviour.            Accept ownership for their behaviour and learning.            Take pride in their school and never bring its good name into disrepute.</p>
<p><b><u>Parents have the right to:</u></b>            Have their children educated to the best possible standard.            Have reasonable access to the school, and have their enquiries and concerns dealt with sympathetically and efficiently.            Be informed of their child's progress.            Be informed about school rules and procedures.            A broad, balanced and appropriate curriculum for their children.</p>	<p><b><u>To enjoy these rights parents must:</u></b>            Ensure their child attends school regularly, is equipped with the right books and equipment and support the school to the best of their ability.            Be aware of school rules and procedures and adhere to them at all times.            Attend planned meetings with teachers.            Provide the school with all necessary background information about the child, including telling the school about any concerns they have about their child or any significant change in their child's medical needs or home circumstances.</p>

<p>Be informed promptly if their child is ill or has an accident, or if the school has concerns about the child.</p> <p>Have their children protected while in the school environment</p> <p>Be treated with courtesy and respect.</p>	<p>Ensure children are well enough to attend school.</p> <p>Be committed to the education of their children.</p> <p>Show respect to all within the school environment.</p>
<p><b><u>Staff have the right to:</u></b></p> <p>Enjoy a stress-free and productive working environment.</p> <p>Work in an environment where common courtesies and social conventions are respected.</p> <p>Express their views and contribute to policies, which they are required to reflect in their work.</p> <p>Support and advice from senior colleagues and external bodies.</p> <p>Adequate and appropriate resources and accommodation.</p> <p>Be treated with respect by all with whom they come in contact e.g. pupils, parents and visitors.</p>	<p><b><u>To enjoy these rights staff must:</u></b></p> <p>Seek to create a positive stress-free learning environment for their pupils in which pupils get rewarded for positive behaviour and achievement.</p> <p>Behave in a professional manner at all times.</p> <p>Show interest and enthusiasm for the work in hand and in their pupils' learning.</p> <p>Seek advice and/or help from colleagues.</p> <p>Identify and seek to meet the needs of their pupils and parents.</p> <p>Expect high standards and acknowledge effort and achievement in all areas of work.</p> <p>Treat pupils, parents and colleagues with respect.</p>

## Review

Our Pastoral Care Policy and organisation for implementation and delivery will be reviewed and monitored every three years. *(Staff change updates will be made as necessary)*