

A restorative discussion

Over the course of last session all staff had the opportunity to learn about restorative approaches and were provided with training.

With support from the education department we explored what is meant by restorative practice, the different approaches that can be used. A group of staff volunteered for further training.

One of the most effective restorative approaches is a restorative discussion. The key feature of a restorative discussion is asking key questions:

The facts

- What happened?
- What led up to it?

The consequences

- What were you thinking at the time?
- Who else has been affected?

The future

- What do you need to do to move on?

If pupils have the opportunity to reflect on what happened, how they acted and how a further incident can be avoided we believe our school will be a good place to be.

Getting it right for every child

Becoming a restorative school is part of our plan to ensure we "Get it right for every child". This means we want to ensure that pupils are:

- Safe
- Happy
- Achieving
- Nurtured
- Active
- Responsible
- Respected
- Included



If you have any queries or would like further information please contact the school:

St Mungo's High School
Merchiston Avenue
Falkirk
FK2 7JT

St Mungo's High School

A Restorative School



"Let Christ Shine Through You"



Information for Parents and Carers

What is a restorative school?

In a restorative school the focus is not on punishing pupils but is on asking them to reflect on what happened, their actions and how any future incidents can be avoided.

In a restorative school the focus is on pupils repairing harm done to relationships and people over and above the need for assigning blame and dispensing punishment.

The restorative approach is based on the belief that the people best placed to resolve a conflict or a problem are the people directly involved, and that imposed solutions are less effective, less educative and possibly less likely to be honoured.



Why use restorative approaches?

Pupils seek fairness from adults who are dealing with disciplinary issues. Whether they are a perpetrator or a victim, their focus is not on winning or losing, but on trusting in a fair process.



Restorative approaches help teachers ensure that pupils, staff and parents can be part of a fair process, while helping all involved to understand the impact of their behaviour on others.

Restorative approaches can:

- help develop a whole school positive ethos
- encourage members of the school community to effectively resolve and learn from conflict in a way which maintains relationships, or terminates them in a positive way
- support any necessary sanctions by processes of learning and reconciliation.

The ultimate aim of the restorative approach is to build a strong, mutually respectful, safe and inclusive school community in which everyone feels valued and heard.

What are the advantages of restorative approaches?

The potential advantages of restorative approaches in the school setting include:

A **safer, more caring** environment.

An **improved school ethos**.

Everyone **listens** to one another.

A **reduction** in bullying.

Pupils feel **valued**.

Greater emphasis on responses to inappropriate behaviour that seek to **reconnect**, and not further disconnect, young people.

Reduction in exclusions.

A greater **confidence** in the staff team to deal with challenging situations.

An increased **belief** in the ability of young people to take responsibility for their choices, and more people giving them opportunities to do so.

