



PASTORAL CARE POLICY

PASTORAL CARE POLICY

	CONTENTS	PAGE NUMBER
1	Background	2
2	Purpose and Scope	2
3	Objectives	2
4	Procedures/Guidelines: • Key Principles • Pastoral Structures • Support Strategies	3
5	Monitoring/Evaluation	3

Commencing Date:	
Approval Signature:	
Review Date:	

1. Background

UN Convention on the Rights of Children : Article 3 (best interests of the child)

“The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all decisions and actions that affect children.”

Our vision is to create a nurturing community where all individuals feel valued, respected, and empowered to thrive.

2. Purpose and Scope

Ardnashee School and College is dedicated to fostering a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment where both staff and pupils can flourish academically, socially, and emotionally. This pastoral care policy outlines our commitment to meeting the pastoral needs of both staff and pupils, ensuring their well-being and promoting a culture of respect and support.

3. Objectives

Our objectives are:

- To promote the holistic well-being of both staff and pupils, addressing their social, emotional, and mental health needs.
- To foster a culture of respect, empathy, and inclusion, where all members of the school community feel safe, supported, and respected.
- To provide comprehensive support services tailored to the individual needs of staff and pupils, including counselling, mentoring, and pastoral guidance.
- To promote positive relationships and effective communication, fostering a sense of belonging and collaboration.
- To maintain a safe and secure environment conducive to learning, personal growth, and professional development.

4. Procedure/Guidelines

PASTORAL CARE POLICY

Key Principles

- **Inclusivity:** We embrace and celebrate the diversity of our school community, recognizing the unique strengths and contributions of each individual.
- **Respect:** We treat all members of the school community with dignity, kindness, and compassion, fostering a culture of mutual respect and understanding.
- **Empowerment:** We empower staff and pupils to voice their concerns, express their needs, and actively participate in decision-making processes related to pastoral care.
- **Confidentiality:** We uphold strict confidentiality in all pastoral care matters, safeguarding the privacy and trust of individuals seeking support.
- **Collaboration:** We collaborate closely with parents, guardians, external agencies, and relevant professionals to provide coordinated support and interventions.

Pastoral Structures

- **Designated Pastoral Lead:** Oversees implementation and monitoring.
- **Teachers / Classroom Assistants:** Provide daily support and build trusting relationships.
- **SENCO:** Coordinates support plans and liaises with external agencies.
- **Wellbeing Team:** Includes counsellors, therapists, and 'Being well doing well' staff.

Support Strategies

- **Individual Support Plans** for pupils with individual needs.
- **Therapeutic interventions**
- **Safe Spaces and sensory rooms** for emotional regulation.
- **Peer Support and Mentoring initiatives.**
- **Staff Wellbeing and Training** to ensure a supportive environment.

5. Monitoring/Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed regularly to ensure its effectiveness. Feedback from students, parents/guardians, and staff will be sought to inform any necessary revisions.

Commencing Date:	September 2025.
Review Date:	September 2028.
Signed by Chairperson	Aisling Bonner
Signed by Principal	R. H. 