

Ardcoil Mhuire

Mackney, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.
H53CP40

Principal: Mr. Pauric Hanlon




Dep. Principal: Ms. Lilian Hynes



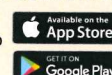
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Ardcoil Mhuire App



Pastoral Care Policy



CEIST
Catholic Education
An Irish Schools Trust



Scoileanna Cothaithe Sláinte
Health Promoting Schools

ARDSCOIL MHUIRE REVIEWED POLICY ON PASTORAL CARE 2011

Our Mission Statement is rooted in the Pastoral Care principles of the Mercy Philosophy of education. It fosters the development of each individual student and teacher within an atmosphere of care, concern and respect.

1. RATIONALE FOR THIS POLICY:

(i) To value, develop and support each member of the school community.

(ii) To promote learning at every level for the student.

2. GOALS FOR THIS POLICY:

(i) Foster a happy school community.

(ii) To care for the individual student in a supportive environment.

(iii) To develop mutually supportive staff relationships which contribute to a good atmosphere in the School Community.

(iv) To encourage a sense of justice within the school community.

(v) To establish and maintain a good rapport between school, community and home.

(vi) To prepare students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

3. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Board of Management:

(i) To ensure that the Policy is developed.

(ii) To ensure that the Policy is developed in consultation with teachers, students, parents and community.

(iii) To ensure that the Policy is effective and implemented, practised, made explicit and reviewed.

2. Principal/Deputy Principal:

- (i) Make provision for Pastoral Care within the school structures.**
- (ii) Provide leadership in building community.**
- (iii) Encourage all activities, social, academic, sporting, musical etc.**
- (iv) Acknowledge (and where appropriate reward) of all efforts and achievements in different areas.**

3. Year Head:

- (i) The Year Head is a central figure in the Pastoral Care system and should have a knowledge of needs, behaviour, progress and academic attainment of each student in his/her year group.**
- (ii) Liaises with Class Tutors/Deputy Principal/Principal/other staff/parents on a regular basis**
- (iii) Creates a positive atmosphere within the year group thus promoting welfare and development of students.**
- (iv) Induction and integration of new students.**

4. Class Tutor:

- (i) The class tutor is a key figure in the Pastoral Care system and should have a knowledge of the needs, behaviour, progress and academic attainment of each student in his/her tutor class.**

5. Subject Teachers:

- (i) Be familiar with, and support Pastoral Care Policy and report concerns to appropriate authority.**
- (ii) To create a positive teaching and learning environment in the classroom.**
- (iii) The subject teacher is concerned for the development of the whole person and emphasises the active involvement of the student in the learning process.**

6. The Guidance Counsellor and Chaplain.

- (i) **The Guidance Counsellor and the Chaplain support staff and students and contribute to all aspects of Pastoral Care.**

7. Home School Liaison

- (i) **Provides an essential link between home and school.**
- (ii) **Visits all parents/guardians of our first year students to ensure a smooth transition from Primary to Post Primary.**

8. Parents

- (i) **Support the Pastoral Care Policy of the school**
- (ii) **Attend school related meetings**
- (iii) **Report concerns about family members who attend the school.**

4. POLICY CONTENT:

- (i) **There is an organised Pastoral Care structure for each year group.**
- (ii) **Pastoral activities will include induction of new students and teachers, student assemblies, counselling, attention to each student's academic progress, sporting activities, anti-bullying week, healthy eating week, inter-cultural week and outings.**
- (iii) **Year Heads, Class Tutors, Guidance Counsellor and teachers meet on a regular basis to monitor, evaluate and review student's welfare.**
- (iv) **We endeavour to care for the individual student through:**
 - (a) **Pastoral Care structure i.e. Year Heads, Tutors, Buddy system, Prefects, Leaving Cert mentoring system etc.**
 - (b) **Remediation services for students with learning difficulties**
 - (c) **Counselling and referral where necessary**
 - (d) **Parent contact.**
- (v) **Nurturing of staff:**
 - **by providing support especially in times of need.**
 - **provision for welcome and induction of new staff**

- Social Committee Activities.

(vi) Community building activities are promoted in a variety of ways through the:

Student Council

Staff Social Committee

Whole School celebrations (e.g. Mercy Day, Leaving Cert party)

Graduation Day

Awards Day

Liturgies for special occasions:

Opening of year Mass

Graduation Mass

Leaving Cert Christmas Mass

Penitential Services

Ash Wednesday Service

Bereavement

Class Activities: Trips etc.

Participating in charitable events

Green School

Extra curricular activities: Debating, Drama, Music, Sport, Stage productions etc.

(vii) Contact with parents is promoted and maintained through:

- Home School Community Links.**
- Parent Association**
- Reports to Parents**
- Links with Feeder Primary Schools**
- Newsletter**
- Parent Teacher Meetings**
- Work Experience**
- Community Links**
- School Website**
- Text messaging system**
- Student Journals**

5. PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

- (i) The goals of the Policy are attained.**
- (ii) Good relationships achieved and maintained.**
- (iii) Good attendance.**
- (iv) A positive learning environment**
- (v) Positive feedback from students and parents.**

6. MONITORING AND IMPLEMENTATION.

- (i) Principal/Deputy Principal**
- (ii) Year Heads and Class Tutors**
- (iii) All staff.**

7. REPORTING:

- (i) Any staff member reports to Class Tutors.**
- (ii) Class Tutor reports to Year Heads**
- (iii) Year Head report to Principal/Deputy Principal.**
- (iv) Principal reports to Board of Management.**

8. REVIEWING:

This Policy is reviewed regularly in accordance with the school plan.

Ratified by the Board of Management on 15th September, 2011.