

The Pastoral Support Team (PST) and Restorative Practices at Stormont House School

As a restorative school, we recognise that positive relationships build positive behaviour, which enables all members of the school to learn, and to feel safe and happy in school. When things go wrong, we use restorative approaches to put things right, building positive experiences that improve self-regulation.

Restorative practices are based on a simple series of questions that can be used in different ways, from small conversations to large conferences.

- What happened?
 - Who has been affected and how?
- How can we mend the harm?
- How can we make sure this does not happen again?

The Pastoral Support Team (PST) lead on these restorative practices and work with individuals and groups of students to help build and restore relationships when these needs occur.



The role of the PST is to improve student wellbeing and capacity to learn by developing their ability to emotionally self-regulate especially;

- To reflect on actions and feelings when things go wrong,
- to restore and manage relationships positively,
- to reconnect with their own learning and minimise interruption to others'

The team also have an important role in developing the practice of teachers and other support staff. This can range from individual discussions to whole-school workshops. We are committed to the professional development of all our staff and will provide both internal and external training to team members, as appropriate.

Staff with concerns regarding student behaviour or attitudes to learning can request intervention from the PST. The PST team will assess the concerns using observations and reports and will devise a behaviour plan to address the behaviours. They will closely monitor the students and liaise with teachers and support staff to ensure the strategies are being implemented successfully.

The PST role is also one of building relationships with families to ensure there is a team approach to supporting all our students to achieve the best outcomes possible throughout their time here at Stormont House.

The work of the team directly supports progress to our shared school vision and priorities:-



The PST are an important part of restoring stability and minimising loss of learning by rapidly de-escalating incidents and engaging students in the reflect, repair, reconnect process. This isn't something that can be rushed, neither should it be delayed. The PST have proactive, responsive and follow-up aspects of their role, which rely on building trusting relationships with clear boundaries coupled with high quality interpersonal and communication skills.