

Red Rose Primary School

Restorative Practices



During one of our staff training days in September, all Red Rose Primary School staff took part in Restorative Training. This approach looks at a **restorative approach** to fulfil our school values. The aim of the restorative approach is to develop our community and to manage conflict and tension by repairing harm and building relationships.

This is shown in our restorative school values which are:

- **Respect** – we value, support and empathise with each other
- **Responsibility** – we are responsible our own actions
- **Reparation** – we try to put things right and display the value of forgiveness.
- **Reintegration** – we can always make a fresh start

For effective teaching and learning to take place, we believe that there should be good relationships within the school. The restorative approach puts repairing harm done to relationships at the heart of the school. This allows us to build, nurture and repair relationships.

The **restorative approach** gives us two main opportunities.

- It primarily provides those who have been harmed (victim) with a forum to 'have their say and be heard', which is vital to the healing process.
- Secondly it presents the offender (harmer) with an onus of **responsibility** for their actions, an opportunity to make some form of **retributive** acknowledgement.

The main tool in the restorative approach is the **Restorative Conversation**. This is the place where the two parties are able to discuss the situation with the intent of restoring things to a good learning environment. The conversation takes the form of 5 questions

In school we use the 5 big questions during these conversations:

1. What happened?
2. What were you thinking about at the time?
3. What were you feeling? What are you feeling now?
4. Who has been affected?
5. What needs to happen to make things fair and better?

The conversations show that actions have consequences to how people are feeling which has an influence on how they are able to learn. Discussing these will encourage people to accept responsibility and repair relationships.

This approach is being adopted across the whole school. We will provide updates as we embed the **Restorative Approach** in Red Rose Primary School.