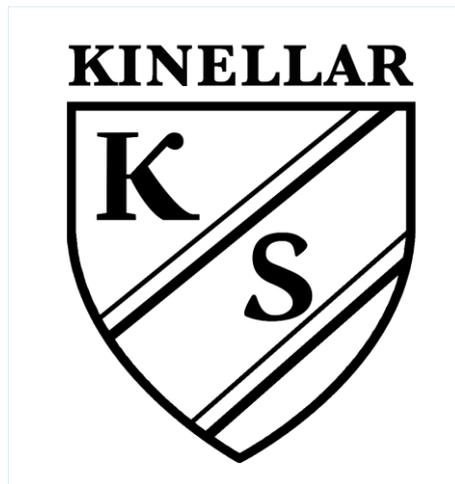


**Kinellar School
Restorative Approaches
Information for Parents
Session 2016-2017**



Supporting our School Values

**Happiness
Respect
Achievement
Honesty**

Aberdeenshire Council are promoting Restorative Approaches in all their schools as a means of dealing with behaviour and conflict. In light of this, we thought you as parents, might find the following information helpful. It should help you understand how this approach will work in Kinellar School.

Restorative Approaches in Kinellar School

At Kinellar School we value happiness, respect, honesty and achievement. We want everyone in our school to value their own happiness and the happiness of those around them, to show respect towards others and themselves, to be honest and own up to any mistakes they have made and to be able to achieve and reach their full potential. Building and nurturing relationships is at the heart of these values.

Restorative Approaches is an approach to dealing with behaviour and conflict. It focuses on building and repairing relationships rather than managing and controlling behaviour.

Restorative Approaches help us differentiate between the person and his / her behaviour. Restorative Approaches are grounded in the understanding that individuals are responsible for their actions, and within our school community when an action has caused harm, those involved have a responsibility to put things right. Restorative Approaches favour discipline over punishment.

- Punishment is forcing somebody to undergo a penalty for some crime or misdemeanour – done to someone.
- Discipline is a branch of learning or instruction, training for the improvement of self-control – done with someone.

Restorative Conversations

Those affected by a behaviour, a conflict situation or a problem will be involved in a restorative conversation. Each member of staff has organised time in their week to ensure these conversations take place. Your child may be asked to take part in a conversation if they have been disrupted/harmed or caused disruption/harm. This would take place in the classroom or a quiet area and would involve him / her sitting down with the teacher and possibly others involved in the situation and discussing these questions.

The 5 Useful Questions

Tell me what happened?

What were you thinking?

How did you feel?

Who else has been affected?

What do you need to do so that things can be put right?

These questions now form the basis of our think sheets. During these conversations think sheets will be completed alongside the teacher and sent home to parents.

Think Sheets

<p>Kinellar School – Think Sheet</p> <p>Dear Parent,</p> <p>Your child has been given this Think Sheet as a consequence of his/her behaviour in school. They have been given a level _____ sanction and this has been completed following a restorative conversation with a member of staff. We would be grateful if you could discuss this with them, sign, and return to school.</p> <p>Thank you for your support, Kinellar School SMT</p>	<p>At Kinellar School we value:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Happiness • Respect • Honesty • Achievement <p>Sanctions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Verbal warning 2. Second warning 3. Think sheet sent home to parents 4. Think sheet home meeting between pupil and SMT 5. Think sheet home meeting between pupil, parents and staff 	<p>At Kinellar School we value Happiness, Respect, Honesty, Achievement</p> <p>Dear Parent,</p> <p>Your child has been given this Think Sheet as a consequence of his/her behaviour in school. They have been given a level _____ sanction and has this been completed following a restorative conversation with a member of staff. We would be grateful if you could discuss this with them, sign, and return to school.</p> <p>Thank you for your support, Kinellar School SMT</p> <p>Sanctions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Verbal Warning 2. Second Warning 3. Think Sheet sent home 4. Think Sheet sent home and meeting between pupil and SMT 5. Think Sheet sent home and meeting between pupil, parents and staff <p>What happened? Who has been affected? </p> <p>What were you thinking? How did you feel? </p> <p>What do you need? </p> <p>Child's name: _____ Date: _____ Parent signature: _____</p>
--	---	---

Upper Stages

Infants

Sanctions

Restorative Approaches do not mean that sanctions have been removed. If pupils are not displaying our values the following sanctions will be put in place:

1	Verbal Warning	A member of staff will issue a warning about behaviour.
2	Second Warning	Pupil's name will be recorded by a member of staff.
3	Think sheet	Think sheet completed and sent home to parents.
4	Pupil meets with SMT	Think sheet sent home and meeting between pupil and SMT.
5	Parents and pupil meet with member of staff	Think sheet sent home and meeting between pupil, parents and staff.

If a child has completed a think sheet the final question will focus on what needs to be done next to ensure these behaviours do not continue. This is the discipline part of the process being done with the pupil where further sanctions can be agreed upon, these could include staying inside during break times, writing letters of apology or completing tasks that should have been done in class at home.

Parental Role

We would value your support if a think sheet is sent home with your child. Please discuss it with your child and sign it to show you have spoken about their behaviour. If after receiving three think sheets and having a conversation with a member of the management team the behaviour of your child has not improved, we would then invite you and your child to a meeting with a member of staff.

Next Steps:

- Staff and pupils will increasingly use these types of conversations to resolve issues in school.
- As pupils build up understanding, skills and confidence we aim to encourage and support pupils to do this independently in some situations.
- Staff will continue to take part in professional development to develop and build on these skills.
- We will keep parents informed of progress in this area.

Further information on this approach can be found by:

- Contacting the school
- Accessing the following websites:
- <http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/inclusionandequalities/relationshipsandbehaviour/approaches/restorative/Index.asp>
- <http://www.transformingconflict.org/>
- <http://www.sacro.org.uk/>
- <http://www.restorativejustice.org.uk/>