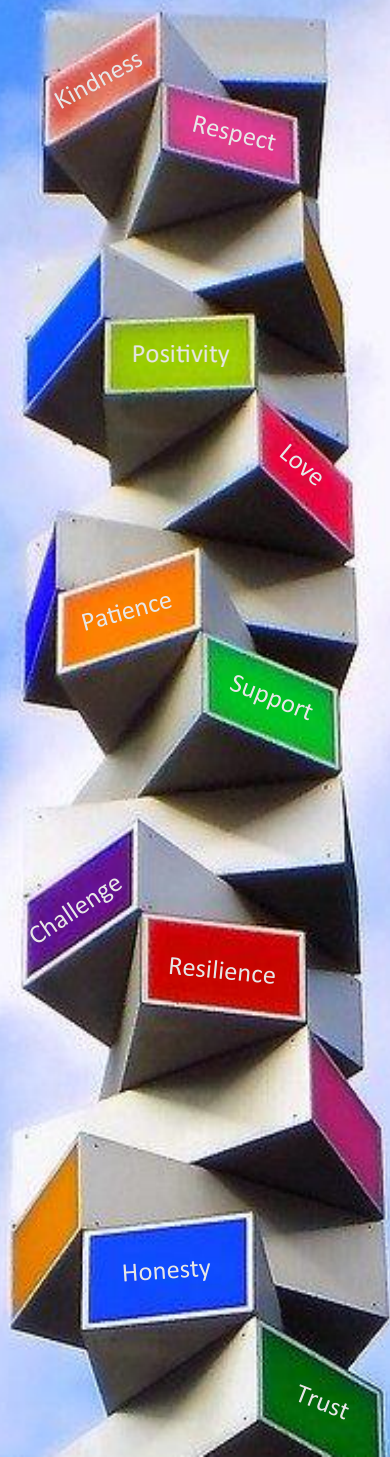




What are Restorative Approaches?

Restorative approaches are a way in which individuals and organisations think about relationships. This includes relationships:

- with ourselves
- with others
- to learning.

Restorative approaches focus on building, maintaining, and repairing relationships to improve everyone's quality of life.

We believe that everyone, including children, has the right to achieve their full potential, but what often prevents us from doing this is our communication. Do we know how to:

- challenge others?
- take on feedback?
- control our emotions & understand other people's emotions, even when things are not going our way?

Restorative approaches aims to support staff and children in this school to create a culture of safety, inclusivity, trust, and honesty.

How will this affect my child(ren)

Traditionally, schools have been excellent at teaching a subject, for example, Maths, Science, English, Geography. These subjects help us move through education, achieve qualifications, and enter into a job. Schools are excellent at doing this.

Restorative approaches suggest that children also benefit from learning additional skills, such as:

- how to be more confident in front of groups
- how to be more patient
- being able to listen well
- knowing how to repair relationships when they go wrong

These are life skills that most people will use on a regular basis.

Your school has recognised that these skills are very important for children. They have chosen to develop a restorative way of doing things, where these skills are nurtured alongside their traditional academic skills.

What will change in school?

Firstly, this will not affect the lessons that are being taught. Your child(ren) will continue their education in the same way. They will still learn all the same subjects and lessons. The staff will build in opportunities for children to practice

these additional skills, through talking, leading by example, and using restorative approaches as part of their everyday routine in school.

You may hear that your child(ren) are using circle practice, which is a great way to build many of the skills we are trying to encourage.

You may also hear that your child(ren) are being taught more non-academic problem solving skills and encouraged to talk about thoughts, feelings, and choices.

Staff have begun training to improve their knowledge and understanding of how to do this and this will slowly filter down to your child(ren) over the coming months. This is a slow process with no clear end point, as we can always improve our skills for life.



What can you do as a parent?

You are already helping your child(ren) develop these skills as part of raising them. We encourage you to talk to the school about how else you can support them. It really helps children when parents and schools teach children life skills in the same way. One simple tool we encourage everyone to use more of is listening.

"Listen to anything your children tell you, no matter what. If we don't listen eagerly to the little stuff when they are little, they won't tell us the big stuff when they are big, because to them, all of it has always been big stuff"

Further Information

If you would like to find out more about restorative approaches, there will be future opportunities to attend parent engagement sessions, where a member of the restorative approaches team will be delivering a workshop.

If you would like to speak to a member of the W.R.A.P team then please do not hesitate to contact us.



Restorative Approaches in Schools



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