



Holy Family Catholic Primary School

“Together with Jesus, we grow in love.”



Welcome to Holy Family Catholic Primary School, a school that uses restorative practice. Here, we use restorative thinking to help build relationships and also to repair any harm that we encounter as we spend our time in this building. Restorative thinking is, to put it simply, a combination of being:

- Reactive - repairing harm and relationships when something has gone wrong
- Proactive - anything that builds connections, develops relationships and brings people together

Holy Family is a community that you are a part of during your time here. In any community there are times when everyone gets on, and times when relationships break down. At Holy Family, we actively seek to:

- **repair these breakdowns,**

and to

- **build relationships.**



When we use restorative thinking, we always try to structure our conversations using restorative questioning. We seek to bring pupils together to resolve disputes and may also use the same strategy with staff /pupil issues. The aim is for participants to take responsibility for their behaviour and be part of resolving conflicts/issues to avoid repeat offending.

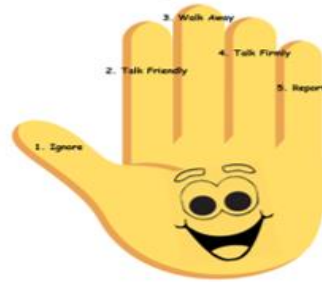
The restorative questions are as follows:

- What happened?
- What were you thinking about at the time?
- What have your thoughts been since?
- How do you feel about what's happened?
- Who has been affected by what happened?
- In what way/s have they been affected?
- What do you think needs to happen to make things right?

We use these questions as a structure to explore issues. This approach encourages pupils to consider their own behaviour and its impact on other people; to be part of a solution to move the problem into a more positive place.

We also try to encourage our pupils to become more independent with peaceful problem solving. We encourage them to use the helping hand strategy. This encourages the pupils to use four steps before reporting an incident to an adult.

1. Ignore
2. Talk friendly
3. Walk away
4. Talk firmly
5. Report



Our shared values

At Holy Family, our pupils and staff believe in the following shared values that should help us all work together in a positive way:

Our Values

1. Respect
2. Love
3. Belonging
4. Forgiveness
5. Honesty
6. Determination



Each of these values have been described by our school council in the following way:

Love – We think love means that we are accepting of everyone.

Forgiveness – We think forgiveness means that everyone deserves a second chance.

Belonging – We think belonging means everyone is welcome at Holy Family.

Respect – We think respect means treating others like we would like to be treated.

Honesty – We think honesty means that we trust each other.

Determination – We think determination means that we never give up and grow in resilience.

When staff and pupils communicate with you, and you communicate with staff and pupils, we would ask you to remember these values. If we can focus on these aspects of getting on together we can make sure that relationships, supported by shared values, are at the heart of what we do.

Thank you for reading this and please speak with a member of staff or peer mentors if you would like any further information on restorative practice!

We hope you enjoy your stay here.

From the staff and pupils of Holy Family.