

Pastoral Support

Pastoral care at Fairfield's is an absolute priority. Here at Fairfield's, we care and are totally committed to each and every child's academic success and wellbeing. As a school, we play an important role in identifying needs early and provide rapid and targeted interventions.

The pastoral team make deliberate interactions with children in their care and prioritize building a positive relationship with children and we help them celebrate their achievements and support them through challenging times, working to develop and maintain their Social, Emotional, Mental Health and Well-being and self-confidence.

We offer Parent/Carer drop-in sessions and Parents/Carers can use the Pastoral Team as a supportive environment for concerns about their child/children including concerns not related to education.

How are referrals made?

Parents/Carers with a concern can contact the class teacher who will discuss strategies to support their child in class. If progress of the concern has been made, the Class Teacher will continue with ongoing support. However, if the progress is limited, the Class Teacher may complete a Pathway of Support Referral that will be shared with the Senior Mental Health and Pastoral Lead. Alternatively, the Class Teacher may have a concern and a referral will be submitted once they have discussed their concern with the Parent/Carer. All referrals to the team are assessed to see which member of staff and pastoral interventions are best to support the child who may be experiencing difficulties and try to resolve issues that could be a barrier to their learning.

How long is the pastoral support for and what happens next?

1 to 1 Pastoral sessions in Cura Room will be for a period of 6 weeks. After 6 weeks, the support will be reviewed and views gathered. Next steps will be discussed with Class Teacher, Parents and Pastoral Team. A decision will be made whether to close the case, continue with a second cycle of intervention or make a referral to an external service. If a decision is made that the child has made progress and achieved the hoped outcomes, the Pastoral Team will have weekly check in's for a period of 6 weeks and then close the case. Parents/Carers will be contacted regarding the conclusion of sessions at the end of the first cycle and any subsequent cycles.

What support do we offer?

We encourage relationships, help your child to integrate well with others and provide support where needed. Any problems are spotted and dealt with in a sensitive and child-centred way. Some of the areas we cover include but are not limited to; emotional wellbeing, attendance, social interaction/relationships and family environment, school refusal/difficulty in settling into school, anxiety, sadness, anger, irregular mood, mental health, bereavement, grief and loss, family conflict/changes, stress, bullying (victim/perpetrator), withdrawn, low self esteem/confidence, playground/friendship issues, struggles managing strong feelings, struggles working in a group, unhappy, LAC, Young Carer. Sessions can be on a 1 to 1 basis or small group. Session activities could be arts and crafts, talking sessions, playing a game, sensory activities or physical activities such as Jabado.

Supporting the pastoral needs of pupils sometimes involves working with external agencies. In these situations, we ensure that a confidential, professional, non-judgemental, and sensitive service is provided.

Calm Start

Settling into school is not always easy for some children. If your child is feeling anxious about school, or is struggling to come in, we offer a session at 8.30. A small group of invited children meet every morning to complete a calming activity to settle in readiness for the school day.

Lunch Club

We run a Lunch Club every day to support those children that may find lunchtimes difficult. Some children attend on their own and some children ask to bring a friend with them. All lunch sessions are supervised by the Pastoral Team and games and activities are available for them to use. At times, children may eat their lunch in the room as well.

3 O' Clock Club

A small group of invited children attend Cura Room at 3 pm for a 15 minute session. This gives the child the opportunity to speak to the Pastoral Team on how their day has been, if they have had any problems and to talk through any worries before they go home. This debrief at the end of the day helps the child to feel reassured and to go home in a happy frame of mind.

Five to Thrive

Throughout the school, all children would benefit from the Five to Thrive programme. This is slowly being introduced to each year group.

The Five to Thrive model is a way of understanding how connected relationships are fundamental to wellbeing and help us to build resilient communities.

The Five to Thrive building blocks are a sequence of relational activities that support healthy brains in young children.

Useful Links

CAMHS

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) are NHS services that provide mental health assessment and treatment for children and young people up to age 18 who are having difficulty coping with their emotions, behavior, or relationships.

<https://www.cnwl.nhs.uk/camhs/our-services/specialist-camhs/milton-keynes-camhs>

Family Lives

Family Lives is a charity that provides free, professional, non-judgmental support and advice to families in England to help them deal with the challenges of family life.

<https://www.familylives.org.uk/>

Childline

Childline is a free, confidential service run by the NSPCC that offers support to children and young people in the UK up to the age of 19

<https://www.childline.org.uk/>

Rowans Family Centre

Aims to work with parents-to-be, parents and young children to promote the physical, intellectual and social development of babies and young children, particularly those who are disadvantaged, so that they flourish at home and when they get to school.

<https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/children-young-people-and-families/rowans-family-centre>

Kings Community Centre

We strive to provide services to reach all our community from parent & toddler groups, youth groups and community service provision.

<https://kccmk.co.uk/>

Baby Basics

Baby Basics work tirelessly with the community and local businesses to re-use excellent condition second hand and new items to create gift packages that give families everything they need to start life with a new-born baby or support families with children from 0-6 years.

<https://www.babybasicsmk.org.uk/>

NSPCC

We provide therapeutic services to help children move on from abuse, as well as supporting parents and families in caring for their children. We help professionals make the best decisions for children and young people, and support communities to help prevent abuse from happening in the first place.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>