Jan 2014 A working document



# Values underpinning our school culture

**Keeping Safe** –Recognising Achievement-Building Self Esteem-Building Independence

#### **Communication and Relationships**

We sustain multiple relationships with pupils, their families, all staff and governors, external agencies, professionals, and external agencies

To support our pupils' wider development and learning we hold

- 3 parents/carer evenings each year on each site, in addition to Annual Reviews
- Parent Support groups and training.
- Governor visits challenge and support from wider community
- Links with many providers as lead school in the SEND Hub Alliance
- Person Centred Transition Planning Meetings for older students

Some of the agencies we work with are: CDT, CAMHS, School Nurses, Occupational Therapy, Psychologists, Physiotherapists, Moving and Handling Advisor, Music Therapy, Speech and Language Therapists

We are actively involved in variety of meetings e.g. Child In Need, Multi-disciplinary, ARs ,ITAC, CAF network, Child Protection PARMS, EY PARMS, Transition Planning.

#### **Ethos and Culture**

## Openness, respect, Consistency, supportive culture striving to improve

To support this we have a Pastoral Team at the school and the college to look after the wellbeing of our pupils. They are supported by the Deputy Head for Wellbeing. Pastoral Leaders help the pupils recognise when they are emotionally upset and give meaning to their behaviour. The team draw in support networks, training and give advice to staff. They liaise closely between home and other agencies.

The pastoral team also offer:

- A "psychologically aware group" is held alternate week at the college and the school for staff.
- A "safe" place when the pupil feels that they need to leave the classroom.(drop in support)
- Pupil Issues Meetings at College or in Dept Briefings at School
- Emotional literacy groups (e.g. therapeutic story writing)
- Individual /family work sessions (Story links)
- Play skills Opportunities to talk /listen to peers though walk and talk,
  SULP group sessions and supervised play sessions

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**Support in developing play skills** safely is part of the whole school ethos e.g. Playground Profiles for pupils in Primary Play who are vulnerable for all staff awareness

When issues come up we will address them – i.e. bullying, Facebook etc. This may be done on 1:1 basis, possibly with a member of the pastoral team.

At all times we include parents/carers – and where necessary, will invite parents in so that students understand that the message being given is not just from school, especially in connection with internet safety.

Developing Awareness: Themes in assemblies cover human rights, safe use of internet sites

We have Safer Internet weeks and support for families around online safety. See VLE as well

Woodlands Meed has an agreed behaviour codes shared across sites:

Everyone at Woodlands Meed has the right

- to learn
- to work
- to feel safe
- to enjoy themselves
- to achieve their full potential

Remembering these 6 rules will help us make this possible:

- 1. Respect others
- 2. Be kind and helpful
- 3. Look after each other
- 4. Be polite
- 5. Be honest
- 6. Look after our School and College

We encourage (at least annually) each class or KS to consider and then reinterpret these rules the code **in their own terms**- and with signs and symbols /age appropriate language as needed. These agreed versions are display their class often alongside the whole Woodlands Meed agreed version.

Staff praise friendship and helping skills etc when they award Stars of the weeks and tuck shop vouchers.

#### **Pupil Empowerment**

**Opportunities to talk to an adult** Pastoral support provides opportunities for students to speak to adults, and pupils have opportunities to speak with adults within the class (teacher and TA) throughout the day

When issues come up we will address them – eg bullying, Facebook etc.

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#### Opportunities to talk to peers and listen to peers

Pupils are given the opportunities to talk with their peers within class and also when more personal/sensitive issues with pastoral or in smaller groupings.

Forums to express their views of the school and learn about democracy:

- Questionnaires,
- Annual Review feedback in Makaton as needed
- School Council and Student Council
- Burgess Hill Youth Council representation
- KS3-5 pupils are encouraged to vote in WSCC Youth Parliament and Cabinet election
- Silver Democracy Award in 2013

### **Developing Leadership Skills:**

- Team Captains in KS2, 3 and 5 are either appointed or planned
- KS4 Sports Leadership and Duke of Edinburgh Scheme
- KS3 Buddy Scheme and Peer Mentoring Training

## Provision of knowledge and skills to keep safe

Some examples topics covered from the curriculum:

- Me and my relationships
- looking after myself
- keeping myself safe
- world of drugs
- Citizenship

SRE Lessons- Sex and Relationships curriculum delivered annually and made appropriate to the emotional readiness of each group

#### **Building independence**

- How to recognise key factors in keeping themselves safe
- Learning the importance of values and individual conscience and moral consideration
- Dealing with problems in daily life

**KEY SKILLS:** Awareness: Observation:

Communication: Detailed Knowledge of Families