

PRIOR'S FIELD SCHOOL

GODALMING SURREY

GSA BSA Girls' Boarding and Day 11-18

Health and Well Being Policy

Prior's Field is committed to promoting the Every Child Matters outcomes as specified by the Government's 2005 report. Prior's Field believes that it is a key element of our function as a school, to ensure the happiness, wellbeing and safety of our pupils, (and our staff), with particular focus on the 5 Every Child Matters outcomes. These are:

- ♦ Be healthy
- ♦ Stay safe
- ♦ Enjoy and achieve
- ♦ Make a positive contribution
- ♦ Achieve economic well-being

Aims

- To ensure that all members of the school community are involved in the decision making process;
- To promote conditions for an orderly and safe school and community in which effective learning and teaching can take place, based on mutual respect;
- To develop in all pupils, a sense of self discipline and acceptance of responsibility for their own actions;
- To ensure pupils understand how to promote their own health through education, and to work to keep them healthy through provision of good quality catering and a safe environment;
- To ensure equality of opportunity, range of experience and access to education for all children.

Ethos of Prior's Field School

To provide and promote;

- a happy, caring, supportive environment, in which each child has the opportunity to achieve their full potential morally, physically, aesthetically and intellectually. A place where learning is not only for school but for life.
- an environment which encourages self esteem, value and worth, motivating the children to work cooperatively and productively together. To encourage and

maintain links between home and school, to enable teachers and parents to work together in support of their child.

- co-operation and establish partnership links, through awareness of the value and needs of others, in school, with other schools, at home, with the School Board and the wider community.
- creativity and ambition.
- an awareness of the duties and responsibilities of citizenship. To continue development of close links with other schools. To establish a school climate where all members of the school community are able to work as a team and show mutual respect. To participate in decision making through the Student Council. To have a sense of identity, commitment and pride in their school where everyone is offered equal opportunities regardless of ability, race, creed or religion.

Learning and Teaching

Effective learning and teaching acknowledges that pupils learn in different ways. By taking account of different learning styles teaching can be made more accessible and motivating for pupils. There must be effective differentiation to take account of individual learning needs. Lessons are organised to ensure that all pupils are challenged and supported. To foster the kind of attitude to work which enables children to become independent learners, participating readily in the learning and teaching process. Pupils will respond well when they feel secure, valued and have opportunities to succeed. Routine school procedures are agreed and reviewed with pupils and staff.

Promote Positive Behaviour

Through a system of rewards in both the Lower and Upper School and in the Sixth Form. Through regular endorsement and acknowledgement of good behaviour, good academic work or effort or any improvement, by each and every member of staff who comes into contact with the pupils.

Pastoral Care

All staff should:-

- make provision for support of pupils
- work collectively to create a climate where mutual trust, respect and confidence are evident throughout the school
- willingly give time to parents to discuss any issues of concern
- keep appropriate staff informed of relevant background information concerning individual pupils

- be alert to the emotional, physical and social needs of individual pupils and sensitive to background information
- ensure they have read and noted the confidential information document made available by the Deputy Head Pastoral at the start of the school year
- liaise, as appropriate, with external agencies
- where appropriate, make referrals to the CPLO
- ensure appropriate support is given to any pupils needing Learning Support in consultation with external agencies.

It is important that Senior Management are kept fully informed so that they can take positive steps to ensure that sensible and sensitive support is available to meet pupils' emotional and social needs.

Prior's Field holds regular Pastoral evenings for parents (at least two per year) which seek to address the concerns that regularly arise for parents of teenagers, eg: the risks of drink, drugs, misuse of IT, coping with teenage anxiety, staying safe at parties, extreme coping mechanisms – eg: anorexia etc and so on. Generally, these are run by external experts and staff are actively encouraged to attend as well as parents. These evenings complement the pupils PSHCE programme and are invariably well-attended.

Boarding Forums are also run on a bi-annual basis, to provide boarding parents with the opportunity to meet to discuss particular issues and concerns and again to allow for a sharing of good practice between boarding staff and parents.

Complaints procedure

Prior's Field School has a comprehensive Complaints procedure a copy of which can be accessed on Staff Shared.

Pupil Safety

It is important that all staff have read the:-

- Behaviour Policy
- The Prevention of bullying Policy
- Safeguarding Policy and Procedures. All staff will review these at the start of each school year
- The Bereavement Policy
- Homesickness Guidance

Health and Safety Issues.

All staff are issued with a "welfare booklet" – which includes key medical policies, advice for responding to particular medical conditions, a list of pupils who have potentially urgent medical conditions (like anaphylaxis) and key contact numbers.

It is also important that:-

- awareness is raised through regular curriculum activities
- children/staff/parents are aware of the nature of bullying/keeping safe and the procedures to deal with them
- staff handle any incidents in a sensitive and caring manner
- incidents are recorded appropriately
- appropriate action is taken on behalf of both victim and perpetrator
- procedures are followed through to completion – often through the adoption of welfare plans
- pupils feel safe and supported within the school environment
- circle time during PSHE is used as a vehicle to explore issues arising

All incidents will be referred to the Head so that they can be monitored and appropriate action taken.

All incidents involving the following are addressed, logged, dated and action taken recorded:-

- bullying
- racism
- child protection

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis by the Head, Deputy Head Pastoral, Head of Boarding and Medical Team.

Date of next review: March 2010