

## Restorative Practice Guidance for Parents

At Oasis Academy Sholing, we have started to use Restorative practice to build and maintain positive relationships.

Restorative practices are delivered using restorative approaches. It is solution focused, deepens, and develops student's understanding of the spiritual, moral, social and cultural aspects of life.

It is an educative approach, helping those involved to learn how to change. Using these opportunities for personal development is one of the most powerful means of self-improvement.

Restorative approaches are based on six key principles:

1. Restoration: address and repair harm
2. Voluntary: based on an informed choice. The individuals involved want to rebuild.
3. Neutrality: fair and unbiased towards all participants
4. Safety: a safe space for expression of views
5. Accessibility: Non-discriminatory and available to all
6. Respect: respectful of the dignity of all involved

### Restorative Practice Questions

#### **Step 1- What happened?**

Each person shares their side of the story without interrupting each other.

#### **Step 2- What were you thinking at the time?**

Each person shares their thoughts without interrupting each other.

#### **Step 3- How do you feel about it now?**

Each person shares their feelings without interrupting each other.

#### **Step 4- Who do you think has been affected and how?**

Talk about the other children or adults involved and how they might be feeling.

#### **Step 5 - What needs to happen to put things right?**

Each person shares what they think should happen and come to an agreement.

## 'Striving for Excellence'

We may also ask other restorative style questions:-

How would you feel if this happened to you?

How can we put this right?

What could you do differently next time?

What other choices could you have made?

How can we make sure this does not happen again?

Do you feel we have treated you fairly?

**Restorative Practice is NOT a soft or easy way out as it is used alongside the schools behaviour guidance and consequences.**

The restorative questions help staff, parents and students to take responsibility for their actions and the affect they have had on others. Therefore, encouraging empathy and understanding in the hope of reducing negative/repetitive behaviours arising in the future.

Parents/carers are encouraged to engage and support their children in a restorative culture resolving conflict and strengthening relationships not only in school but also in their everyday lives. You may therefore find the restorative questions useful to use at home.