

About Restorative Language

When faced with conflict or upset our response will be:

What happened?

What were you thinking at the time this happened?

What do you think now?

Who has been affected by this and how?

What needs to happen to put this right?

Other examples of restorative language are:

Could we talk please I need some help?

Could you stop please that isn't right?

That's not right - we need to talk about what's just happened.

What would you think if this happened to you?

I can see you're upset would you like to talk about it?

When you did that what were you trying to achieve?

What did you actually achieve?

What could you do differently next time so you achieve your goals without upsetting others?

Why would I want a restorative conference?

A conference gives you the opportunity -

If someone has upset you to:

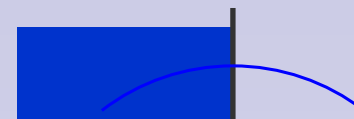
- Have your say
- Ask any questions - like why me?
- Explain what you think about what has happened
- Receive an apology
- Reassurance that the behaviour will not happen again

If you have upset someone to:

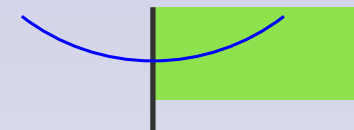
- Put things right
- Apologise
- Explain any misunderstandings
- Resolve any remaining resentment
- Time to work things out
- Work out how not to make the same mistake again



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Information on Restorative Approaches & Restorative Justice Conferencing and how they affect your school?



*Creating Positive Outcomes
from
Negative Behaviour*

Restorative Approaches

Your school has started to use Restorative Approaches to improve behaviour. This leaflet is to explain some of the things that may change at school

Check In and Check Out: some of your tutor periods or lessons may work in a different way and you might find that you check in and check out before lessons start or at the beginning of a lesson. Check in and out allows everyone to:

- Have their say.
- A chance to speak.
- Learn about other pupils about their lives and what they think about things

- you may be surprised at what you find out about people.

Restorative Rules: at the beginning of each term you may be asked to take some time to think about how you work best in class and make some rules about how you want your class to work and act.

Restorative Language: you might notice that staff may start to use restorative language and they might ask you to do the same. Restorative language is calm, respectful and fair. There are some examples on the back of this leaflet.

Restorative Conferencing

If some thing goes wrong at school you may be asked to attend a restorative justice conference. This is a way of sorting out conflict by getting everybody involved together to discuss :-

- What happened?
- Whose been affected?
- What every one was thinking at the time and what they think now?
- What needs to be done to put it right?
- What do we need to agree so it doesn't happen again?

At the end of the conference you will be asked to help make a contract. The contract will list how everyone involved will manage the situation in the future. A member of staff will monitor the situation to make sure that everybody keeps to the contract.

A conference is a good way to ensure that those causing harm are held accountable. We do this by expecting them to take responsibility for their behaviour before the conference. This is to ensure that they are willing to be honest about what has happened.

Questions & Answers about Conferencing ?

1. **What if we want to sort out the problem ourselves?** - if you think you can sort out the problem yourself in a safe way you can tell the member of staff involved. It may be a good idea to ask a peer mentor or mediator to help you do this and to find a safe place to hold your discussion.
 2. **Do I have to take part?** - no the meeting is voluntary but if you don't wish to take part we will need to find another way of resolving the problem this could be a sanction or to talk to a member of staff individually who will then speak to the others concerned until a solution is found.
 3. **Can someone come with me?** - yes someone could come with you as long as they are willing to be prepared before the meeting. This will ensure that they understand what will happen. It is ok for your supporter to be a friend or a parent/carer.
 4. **Who else will know about the conference?** - other pupils will not know what happens in the conference as it is confidential and everyone is reminded of this at this at the beginning of the meeting. Your teacher or tutor will know that you have had a conference and may see your contract but will not know what was said in the conference as long as everyone is safe.
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