About Restorative Language

When faced with conflict or upset our first 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:

We need to discuss what's just happened.

What would you think if this happened to you?

When you did that what were you trying to achieve?

What do you think you did achieve?

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

Please feel free to contact us on enquiry@restorativejustice4schools.co.uk

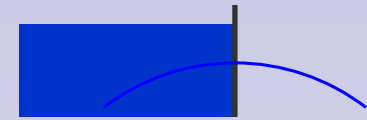**www.restorativejustice4schools.co.uk**

How do restorative approaches benefit my child and school?

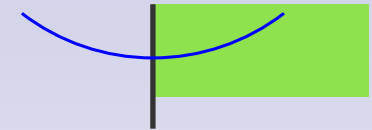Help develop a happier more harmonious environment where the focus is on learning not conflict.

Encourage young people to recognise harm caused and resolve their own conflicts in an appropriate and supportive way.

Allow children and young people to develop strong conflict resolution skills, learn about their own behaviour and it's affect on others.

Allow schools to become solution focused, concentrate on teaching, keep young people in school where they can support them to change inappropriate behaviour in a way that is fair and safe for everyone.

Restorative Justice 4 Schools Ltd

Information for Parents and Carer's - What are Restorative Approaches and how do they affect your child?

Creating Positive Outcomes from Negative Behaviour

Restorative Approaches and Restorative Justice Conferencing

Your son/daughter/ward's school has started to use a process called Restorative Approaches to improve behaviour.

We hope this leaflet will help you understand some of the things they may come home and talk to you about.

Your child may tell you that their classes are working together to build community and develop social and communication skills. To do this we have introduced some new ideas for example our pupils will check in and check out at different times of the day or week.

We may continue or develop a Peer Mentoring/Mediation scheme within school and your child may be invited to take part or may wish to speak to a Peer Mentor/Mediator if they are concerned about something at school.

You may notice a difference in the language that is used in school. Restorative language is a positive, respectful way of communicating and we will expect everyone within school to use it -

both staff and pupil - and we hope that you will respect this when you come into school.

Your child may be invited to attend a Restorative Justice Conference to resolve a conflict that they are having at school. This is a meeting with those involved to:

- discuss what is happening
- Look at who has been affected
- decide how it can be resolved
- find a way forward that avoids resentment

- in a way that is fair to everyone -

To ensure that those who have been engaging in poor behaviour can be held accountable they will be expected to take responsibility for their actions before the meeting starts.

This allow you school to:

- Support those engaging in harmful behaviour so they are able to change that behaviour in a way that also holds them fully accountable.
- Normally during a conference a contract is made, this will list the actions that people need to agree on and carry out for the conflict to be resolved. Someone within school will monitor this agreement to see that everyone is keeping to it.

You may also be invited to attend a conference if you feel that it would be useful for your child if you were there.

Restorative Justice Conferencing is not new. Many schools have used it for over 20 years. It has already been proved to enable schools to improve their behavior. Your child's school may also use restorative conversations, restorative rules for lessons and classroom conferences.

Schools that have adopted this approach have found that they have been able to:

Reduce

- Exclusions/Detentions
- Disruptive behaviour
- Conflict
- Bullying

Improve

- Behaviour
- Learning
- Attendance

Develop

- Truth Telling
- Responsibility
- Accountability
- Empathy
- Emotional Literacy
- Conflict Resolution Skills
- Positive Learning Environment