

# **FOX WOOD SCHOOL**



## **WELLBEING GUIDANCE**

Head teacher: Miss Lucinda Duffy

Fox Wood School  
Woolston Learning Village  
Holes Lane  
Woolston  
Warrington  
WA1 4LS

**AIMS:**

1. To help pupils understand their roles and responsibilities within society.
2. To provide pupils with valuable communication skills.
3. To develop social, moral, spiritual and cultural values.
4. To encourage a positive whole school environment
5. To promote a community ethos.
6. To encourage active involvement and experiential learning

**SCHOOL MOTTO:**

**‘Encouraging independence and personal development  
Through communication, engagement, laughter and learning.’**

**ETHOS:**

At Fox Wood School we promote a love of learning and a happy school environment by ensuring all pupils:

- Acquire skills in our core subjects of literacy, numeracy, PSHE and scientific enquiry
- Develop skills in computing and design technology, humanities, R.E. and the expressive arts
- Make progress appropriate for their ability
- Have curious minds and a desire to learn
- Enjoy a supportive atmosphere of security, happiness and care which encourages success
- Experience a values based school environment which encourages pupils to grow and learn through values which are crucial to our school and society as a whole.
- Develop morally, spiritually and culturally, so enabling them to develop an understanding of those concepts needed as a basis of a happy and caring society
- Celebrate the diversity of our student population through exploring one another’s culture, heritage and faith with healthy curiosity and respect.
- Leave our school, having achieved their academic potential and being self-motivated, considerate, responsible and enthusiastic

**RATIONALE**

The emotional health and wellbeing of all members of Fox Wood School is fundamental to our philosophy and aims. We believe that emotional health is closely linked to mental health and that as a school we can encourage positive development of mental health in childhood. We believe that children who are mentally healthy will be able to:

- Develop psychologically, emotionally, creatively, intellectually and spiritually
- Initiate, develop and sustain mutually satisfying personal relationships
- Become aware of others and empathise with them
- Play and learn
- Develop a sense of right and wrong
- Face challenges, resolve issues and setbacks and learn from them

**CURRICULUM ORGANISATION**

Emotional health and well-being cover the spectrum of activities in school and the range of educational and health/ welfare agencies who support our children. We are proactive in its approach and promote emotional health and well-being throughout the curriculum both formally and informally. Staff use a variety of methods for ensuring sound emotional health and well-being for children. These complement and reflect the overall aims and philosophy of the school. Our approach includes but is not exclusive to:

- focused support groups
- Class teaching and reinforcement of our school values
- Clearly identified rewards and sanctions, understood by all
- Rewarding positive behaviour and achievement
- Setting appropriately challenging tasks
- Providing a forum for listening and talking, e.g. using circle time as a tool for personal, social and health education and citizenship, school council
- Encouraging co-operation and collaboration
- Developing social competence
- Encouraging and developing coping strategies and resilience
- Targeted wellbeing and mental health support for particular vulnerable groups of children

### **PSHE AND CITIZENSHIP**

At Fox Wood PSHE is a core subject and the delivery of PSHE and citizenship is fundamental to the promotion of emotional health. Through the planned programmes and during more informal times there is opportunity to explore issues appropriate to children's ages and stages of development. Staff deal sensitively with these issues and differentiate according to the varying needs of the children in their care. The more recent inclusion of physical Health and Mental Wellbeing in the PSHE curriculum (Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education Statutory guidance for governing bodies, proprietors, head teachers, principals, senior leadership teams, teachers (2019).

### **PARENTAL/ CARER INVOLVEMENT**

Parental involvement as a vital part of emotional well-being. Regular opportunities exist to promote partnership with parents, including:

- Parents' Evenings
- Home school diary which provides daily links with home and school
- Regular parent workshops and coffee mornings
- Behaviour support
- Dietary support
- Occupational therapy support
- Annual review meetings
- IEP meetings
- parental questionnaires, to help us build on what we do best and identify areas for improvement
  - pupil questions/ surveys

- welfare calls to keep in touch with shielding/ absent pupils and their families

## **PASTORAL ORGANISATION FOR PUPILS**

At Fox Wood School all of the pupils are valued by staff and pastoral support is offered through:

- Recognising and responding positively to a child's emotional and/ or behavioural needs
- Communicating with parents positively and realistically to create a partnership approach to children's emotional health and well-being
- Liaising with appropriate agencies to enlist advice and/or support
- Highly effective Teaching Assistant Support alongside the high quality in class pastoral support, we have skilled and committed specialist Teaching Assistants who work together to support individuals and groups throughout the school. These teaching assistants are led by our SLT who oversee the social and emotional support within the school.
- A named member of staff who leads a team staff committed to the well-being of pupils and staff
- Whole school approaches to pastoral care are contained in our Behaviour Policy.
- Clear policies for Child Protection, Anti-Bullying and Attendance are promoted in school.
- Alongside our policies are a range of practices to promote well health, such as: clear transition arrangements, school Council with elected membership from all classes, individualised and collective reward systems, a highly effective behaviour policy

### **SEMH Panel**

The Social, Emotional and Mental Health Panel, is a meeting of trained staff who meet half termly to discuss and action interventions for pupils who need support with their SEMH. Pupils are referred by class teams to the panel for therapeutic interventions (eg art/ music therapy/ OT), behaviour support, staff training, PSHE/ RSE support, LBTQT+, communication, bereavement etc or resources are identified and implemented. Children in care are automatically referred termly.

### **Pastoral Support for staff**

Pastoral support for all members of the school community is fundamental to the aims and philosophy of Fox Wood School. We believe that a well-supported, valued staff with clear and shared purpose is best placed to provide emotional well-being for children in their care.

Our line management structure promotes in-house support, alongside the range of agencies that can be accessed via the staff emotional health notice board. We follow guidelines and policies for supporting personnel, including those for harassment, anti-bullying, race equality and managing staff absence. A clear system of line management exists to monitor and support staff needs. There are staff trained in Mental Health First Aid.