



RESTORATIVE PRACTICE 2012

Through Restorative Practices we teach student self-responsibility, accountability and empathy in their relationships to ensure we become a thoughtful, caring, community of students, teachers and families at Noarlunga Downs P-7 School.

We implement a positive school climate in where all young people are respected, feel connected to each other and their school and in the process become successful learners.

What is it?

Restorative Practice is a way of viewing conflict and wrong-doing that focuses on;

- ◆ the harm this causes to people and relationships
- ◆ the obligation to think about and repair that harm
- ◆ through encouraging respect for all concerned

Why we use it?

At Noarlunga Downs P-7 School we use this approach to learning and discipline to;

- ◆ emphasise the importance of relationships
- ◆ develop empathy, responsibility and accountability and
- ◆ promote the likelihood of positive behavioural change and strengthened relationships

What it achieves?

By using Restorative Approaches we promote;

- ◆ positive, kind and supportive relationships
- ◆ effective discipline plans and orderly classrooms
- ◆ a sense of hope and optimism
- ◆ students safety and competence
- ◆ high levels of work quality and quantity
- ◆ high job satisfaction
- ◆ positive classroom atmospheres

How we use it?

At Noarlunga Downs P-7 School we use Restorative Practice Approaches to develop strong relationships:

- ◆ Through teachers **structuring daily Circle Times into their programs** following the **Circle Time protocols** of;
 - listening when others are speaking
 - everyone having the right to pass first time round
 - being positive and using “build ups”
- ◆ Through staff implementing **Reflective Circle Time when required to help the class or groups reflect collectively on some issue of interest or concern**, examining:
 - What has been happening;
 - How this has affected people;
 - What lessons there are and do we need to act on these lessons.

Our whole school commitment:

When conflict or issues arise staff will:

- ◆ Use this no blame approach that is firm but fair
- ◆ Use the Restorative Questions (see attached)
- ◆ Clearly articulate and reinforce expectations
- ◆ Recognise that wrong-doing primarily causes harm to relationships, and that this harm must be repaired in order to move forward

RESTORATIVE PRACTICES

The following questions are asked of those who have caused harm:

- What happened?
- What were you thinking about at the time?
- What have you thought about since?
- Who has been affected by what you did?
- In what way?
- What do you think you need to do to make things right?

The second set of questions is asked of those who have suffered harm:

- What did you think when you realized what had happened?
- What impact has this incident had on you and others?
- What has been the hardest thing for you?
- What do you think needs to happen to make things right?