 Restorative Practice at Buchanhaven Primary School

**Definition**

The aim of restorative practices is to develop community and to manage conflict and tensions by repairing harm and building relationships.

 **Restorative Practices in Schools is about**:

* building safer schools
* changing behaviour not punishing
* adults modelling restorative approaches
* finding ways to repair harm
* supporting staff, children and families to use RP to build community

**Why use a restorative approach?**

* Punishment doesn’t meet needs of those who suffered
* May be kudos or ‘street cred’ attached to the punishment
* Offenders don’t have to face full effects of actions
* Offender may feel isolated and it may be difficult for them to get back into school community, making rule-breaking more attractive
* If problem behaviour persists, child may be pushed down a road of exclusion and marginalisation. They may be removed from school, but remain a problem in the wider community

 **Restorative Questions 1**

To respond to challenging behaviour:

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

**Restorative Questions 2**

To help those harmed by others’ actions:

* What did you think when you realised what had happened?
* What have your thoughts been since?
* How has this affected you and others?
* What had been the hardest thing for you?
* What do you need to do to make things right?