



The Restorative Foundation

Restorative Principles in Practice

Overview:

Restorative thinking is very simple – it is all about the importance of relationships in creating a successful context for learning. Once made, respectful and collaborative relationships provide optimal conditions for learning, wellbeing and success.

Restorative practice provides organisations with a unifying communication rationale to help build and strengthen a respectful and collaborative relationship climate – high challenge and high support are achieved by working with people, as opposed to doing things to or for people.

It is through the process of communicating and relating that individuals become successful learners and responsible participants in their social world. Restorative Principles in Practice offers a framework that engages with the following questions:

- What kind of social world do we want to make?
- How should we communicate in order to achieve the social world we seek?
- What are we making when we communicate?

Restorative principles in practice involve:

- A focus on the language used by adults
- An emphasis on building social connection
- A range of informal and formal responses to harm and wrong-doing
- A commitment to involve the wider community

The practice of restorative principles helps create an organisation where:

- Individuals experience a sense of connection and belonging
- Healthy relationships are at the heart of well-being, achievement and success

- Social difference and conflict are opportunities for learning and development
- The community is supportive and socially responsible
- The learning climate is respectful, collaborative and inclusive