



## **PASTORAL SUPPORT**

### ***HAPPY, HEALTHY, HIGH ACHIEVING***

About 11 years ago, we changed our school motto putting **Happy** at the beginning (it used to be Healthy, Happy, High Achieving). We did this because we firmly believe that children being happy is fundamental to their mental and emotional well-being.

We want to share with you all the types of pastoral support we offer to **all** children. Most of this support is provided as part of our ordinary everyday provision – we prioritise positive relationships between everyone so if we notice something isn't right, we take time to help children make things better.

We are a small school and all staff know all the children really well. We notice when they aren't their 'usual selves' and this may mean some children have more targeted support at some times. We listen to children and parents and make adjustments when needed. For some support we have to limit numbers or offer to children we feel have the most need. Support may be one off, short term or longer term, depending on the level of need identified by staff.

#### **How we support children:**

- Class circle times or discussions: *often these are a good way to discuss being kind friends, feelings, manage any conflicts*
- A strong Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) curriculum: *children have weekly lessons on different aspects of growing up, dealing with emotions etc.*
- We use a therapeutic approach to behaviour supported by Cambridgeshire Steps: *please click on the link at the end for more information about this approach*
- Small groups: *these are used to develop confidence, discuss worries, model being a good friend*
- Chill zone: *to help children who sometimes find lunchtimes a bit tricky or who benefit from playing in a smaller group with a friendly adult*
- Individual check-ins: *some children have an identified adult who 'checks in' with them each week to make sure they are feeling okay*
- Dog therapy: *for children who benefit from 'talking' to Beebee rather than an adult*
- Behaviour books: *these track all behavior incidents – big or small – so we can quickly identify patterns, if a child is struggling with friendships etc.*
- Transitions: *we have close links with our pre-school settings and visits for our new Reception children; it is the same for our Y6 – we liaise closely with secondaries and*



*the children have visits to the schools. Transitions within school – from one year group to another – are also managed carefully. Teachers get to know the class before they move up and there are meetings and discussions about all aspects of the children*

Most of this support is part of teachers' everyday role – it is what matters to us and we see it as part of our role to help children achieve. If your child needs additional support, i.e. more than the above, we will talk about this with you.

We hope this reassures you that we take your child's happiness very seriously. We listen and act on your concerns. In our Ofsted report, children talked about 'The Caldecote Family' and that makes us proud – children feel safe and part of a family that cares.

### **Useful links:**

Our PSHE curriculum on our website:

[www.caldecotepriamaryschool.org.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=451&type=pdf](http://www.caldecotepriamaryschool.org.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=451&type=pdf)

Mental Health page our website: contains links to lots of resources for parents:

[www.caldecotepriamaryschool.org.uk/page/?title=Mental+Health&pid=171](http://www.caldecotepriamaryschool.org.uk/page/?title=Mental+Health&pid=171)

Family worker who can support with any home issues:

Clare Merrington 01954 286008

[clare.merrington@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:clare.merrington@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

Support for parents – Cambs Community NHS: Emotional Health

[www.cambscommunityservices.nhs.uk/what-we-do/children-young-people-health-services-cambridgeshire/cambridgeshire-children's-emotional-health-home](http://www.cambscommunityservices.nhs.uk/what-we-do/children-young-people-health-services-cambridgeshire/cambridgeshire-children's-emotional-health-home)

Cambridgeshire STEPs – a therapeutic approach to behavior

<https://www.cambslearntogether.co.uk/cambridgeshire-send/cambridgeshire-send-services/cambridgeshire-steps#:~:text=The%20Cambridgeshire%20Steps%20methodology%20prioritises,e motions%20within%20a%20particular%20group.>



Caldecote Behaviour Policy developed around STEPs

[www.caldecoteprimaryschool.org.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=1663&type=pdf](http://www.caldecoteprimaryschool.org.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=1663&type=pdf)

The Anna Freud Centre for parents and carers

[www.annafreud.org/parents-and-carers/](http://www.annafreud.org/parents-and-carers/)