

# EVELYN CP SCHOOL

## BEREAVEMENT POLICY



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## **EVELYN CP SCHOOL**

### **BEREAVEMENT POLICY**

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#### **A. Introduction/Context**

Evelyn CP School believes in adopting a holistic approach to the support and care of its pupils. Death is not seen as an illness – it is normal and an inevitable part of a human existence. When bereavement occurs, it can affect a variety of people not just the family concerned. It is inevitable that at some point Evelyn CP School will have to deal with the death of a member of its community.

To this end, we recognise that work needs to be carried out to ensure that families, children and young people are given

- The opportunities to develop skills to cope with loss and grief and,
- Have access to appropriate information and support when needed

There is no single recipe for provision and services will always need to be organised in the light of needs, priorities and resources.

Various Government legislative and guidance documentation provide a framework to support schools covering death and bereavement. The Education Act (1996) emphasizes the importance of promoting the need for talking about the subject of bereavement and its effects.

#### **B. The Aims**

This Bereavement Policy is intended to reflect our positive ethos and contribute to the caring community we wish to nurture. It is hoped it will contribute considerably to the emotional health and well being of our school community.

The main aim of the policy is to ensure that all pupils and all members of staff faced with a bereavement, are provided with support.

This support includes the opportunity for them –

- To express their feelings in a safe environment,
- To be given space and time to come to terms with their loss
- And access to specialist advice if necessary

It is recognised that the situation for the child, young person and/or family will be monitored over time. It is our hope that anyone faced with bereavement will regard our community as a place where children and young people can grow and face the challenges that lie ahead. This, in turn, will contribute to our learning community.

### **C. Procedures**

Once the situation occurs concerning a bereavement, the following steps will be taken –

- Contact will be made with the family to ascertain the facts and offer support
- Use will be made of the Knowsley 'Positive Responses to Supporting Bereaved Children' pack
- Staff will be informed and decisions taken concerning the best way to inform pupils and for internal mechanisms for support to be organised and employed
- Pupils will be informed in the agreed manner
- The Local Authority and other agencies will be informed and involved as appropriate
- If appropriate, a press statement will be prepared and a strategy for dealing with the media agreed with the family

### **D. Monitoring and Evaluation**

The effectiveness of the policy will be monitored and evaluated by the Senior Leadership Team and reported to the governors when appropriate.

This will include;

- Feedback from pupils and parents affected by bereavement
- Focus groups of staff and pupils
- Feedback from class teachers supporting a bereavement situation
- Discussion with LA personnel
- Discussions with external agencies involved

**Re-accepted by Governors  
September 2025**