



Great Linford
Primary School

Guide to Restorative Principles



The Restorative Foundation

Great Linford has been a Restorative School since 2009. In 2012 we were the first school in Milton Keynes to be awarded the Climate Mark from the Restorative Foundation.



What does a Restorative School look like?

Schools that work restoratively find that relationships are stronger and learning is more effective, and so there is less need to resort to sanctions and punishments to try to 'manage' behaviour.

Our staff never ask 'why' when dealing with conflict. Instead, when children are ready, they come together in a circle. Each child is given a chance to talk and say what has happen and why they feel hurt. This enables children to learn about empathy and how our actions will have an impact on others. The children are taught that they have the power to choose whether they affect someone positively or negatively.

What are class circles?

At Great Linford we believe that *good relationships are the foundation for effective learning*. Therefore each class has two community building circles every day. Once in the morning and one before the children go home.

The children then get the chance to comment on or talk about a particular topic. For example: What is your favourite food or what did you do at the weekend? This enables the children to bond and build respect for one another along with developing their speaking and listening skills.

Yes we also start all our staff meetings and parent information evenings with a circle too!

What does Ofsted say about Restorative Schools:

"Pupils appreciate and follow the school's behaviour code and are skilled at solving moral dilemmas."