



The restorative school

Why... a restorative school?

Students and teachers work best in an environment in which they feel safe, supported and accepted. By consistently giving people a voice, more choice and responsibility, a restorative approach offers the possibility of sustainably effecting change.

There is plentiful proof of benefits of restorative programs in schools, such as:

- Fewer incidents
- Sustainable solutions to incidents
- Fewer cases of staff and student absence
- Less bullying behaviour
- Less work pressure
- Better relational climate
- More parental involvement.

A restorative school is a safe learning place where everyone involved is empowered to grow together, enjoy life and to feel ownership of themselves and the community, as an ongoing process.

Research results (Hull, UK)

- 98% fewer classroom exclusions
- 59,4% fewer physical abuse incidents
- 44,5% fewer suspensions
- 62,5% fewer days of staff absence.

"I was afraid of the required investment. The start cost time, but we made up for it. It causes much less stress. For teachers and for me."
School headmaster

"I enjoy working in the circle, because everyone is allowed to speak."
Student

"I was always allowed to help, but I wasn't allowed to think along. Now that I am, I feel more involved and I'm prepared to provide more help."
Parent

European collaboration

From 2017 up until 2020, organisations and schools across six countries worked on a common programme for restorative work in schools in the European Erasmus+ project RESTORE.

What is it?

In a restorative school problems and abuses are solved in a different way. Each involved person relates what's going on and how he or she has been impacted. Students and teachers who are directly involved and people close to them. This approach provides space for conversation, confrontation, and thereafter for each person involved to decide how to move on. The responsibility remains with those involved and solutions have a broad base.

How?

Interested in becoming a restorative school? The

RESTORE organisations also offer support to keep working restoratively after the project period. By training teachers and other employees and providing coaching for the transitional process. The theoretical framework as well as the skills to bring it into practice are the main focus.

What is required?

To be effective, restorative working requires a commitment from the entire school. The theoretical framework on which the execution is based, must be shared by all those involved.

What does it yield?

A school in which conflict situations are discussed aloud with all those the event has involved or shocked. A school in which everyone learns to take responsibility for their own actions and for their contact with others. In short, a school where it is pleasant and safe to learn.



**In The Netherlands,
RESTORE is executed by the
Eigen Kracht Centrale.**

**Interested in becoming a
restorative school? Call
06 - 18 93 64 77.**



RESTORE

www.restore-project.eu



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