

What is Pupil Support?

Pupil Support is a specialist service within CGS which offers advice and support to young people throughout their school experience, when things are going well, when they go wrong and at key stages. Guidance Teachers and Learning Support Teachers and Assistants are all part of Pupil Support. However, all Subject Teachers and indeed all adults who work in CGS have a responsibility to support the young people in their care and pass on information if they think there are more serious difficulties. All adults in school and the community have a legal responsibility to report any suspected cases of Child Abuse to the Police or Social Work.

When would my child need Pupil Support?

Pupil Support is there not just to help children when things go wrong. Pupil Support Teachers are there to help all young people of CGS to make the best possible choices for their future at key transition stages (P7 to S1; S3 to S4, post 16), to help them gain confidence and respect for others and to ensure that they make the best of their experience at school.

The Scottish Government uses a series of 'indicators' or signs that a young person is doing well in their lives. These are called SHANARRI and are: being **s**afe; being **h**ealthy; **a**chieving; being **n**urtured; being **a**ctive; being **r**esponsible and **r**espected; and being **i**ncluded. If a child or young person is failing to reach any of these indicators then we all have a responsibility to try to help them get back to where they want to be.

All kinds of things can get in the way of a child or young people being all they can be. These can range from social problems, difficulties in making friends, feeling isolated, experiencing learning difficulties, having mental health problems such as anxiety and depression which can prevent a young person from coming to school, lack of motivation and direction for the future.

What can be done if there is a problem?

When a young person is having a difficulty of any kind, Pupil Support Staff are there to listen, provide advice, do what they can to help or possibly refer to another professional for more detailed advice or assessment. Sometimes a whole family can be affected and we do what we can to support parents and carers too. When we need to work with others to assess and evaluate more carefully, we create a 'Universal Child's Plan'. When this happens we encourage all young people and their parents/carers to take an active part in the planning process. We usually have regular meetings in these cases to talk about the Plan and the action we need to take. Sometimes we need to work with other agencies such as Health, SDS (Careers), Children and Family Services, Police Scotland, Psychological Services, Child and Adolescent Mental Health and Voluntary Agencies such as Women's Aid, KYES and KADAS. Working together in this way is called GIRFEC: **G**etting **I**t **R**ight **F**or **E**very **C**hild.

What is a Named Person?

Each pupil in the school has a Named Person, sometimes called a 'Pupil Support Teacher' and sometimes called a 'Guidance Teacher'. Your child's Named Person will be there to support him/her with personal, social, educational and vocational matters and should be your first point of contact if you want to speak to someone in the school about your child (see 'Contact Us' next page). Most Guidance Teachers see pupils at least once a week, during PSHE, and often on a one-to-one basis

What is PSHE?

PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) used to be known as Social Education and is part of the wider framework of Health and Wellbeing within CGS. Pupils in S1 will have one period of PSHE a week, usually (but not always), with their Guidance Teacher. Here, they will develop skills and knowledge about a range of topics including settling-in to secondary; keeping yourself safe; learning for life; substance misuse; making good relationships and career management.

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Pupil Support Team (in alphabetical order):

Cathy Cameron	<i>Depute Head</i>
Frank Chinn	<i>Support Teacher /Keyworker</i>
Mairi Cosgrove	<i>Support Teacher /Keyworker</i>
Suzanne Donaldson	<i>Support Teacher /Keyworker</i>
Chris Doxsey	<i>Support/PSHE Teacher</i>
Jim Farren	<i>PT Pupil Support/Named Person for Knockscalbert</i>
Catriona McLean	<i>Support/PSHE Teacher</i>
Alison Millar	<i>PT Pupil Support and Named Person for Kilbrannan</i>
Lorna Millar	<i>PT Pupil Support and Named Person for Bengullion</i>
Aunice Murray	<i>Support/PSHE Teacher</i>
Marlene Walker	<i>PT Support for Learning</i>

There are also a number of Classroom and ASN assistants, too numerous to mention here, who are part of the Pupil Support Team and who play a very crucial role in supporting our children and young people.