

1. I have a concern about my child or another child's safety

2. I can talk/write to the child's class teacher

3. If I am still concerned, I can talk to the Designated

Teacher for Child Protection

4. If I am still concerned, I can talk to the Principal.

5. If I am still concerned, I can talk/write to the Chairperson (Dr Patrick McCartan) or Designated Governor for Child Protection (Mrs Jane Bell)

of the Board of Governors,
(at the school)

6. At any time, I can talk to the

Duty Social Worker: 0300 1000 300

Regional Emergency Social Work

Service: 028 95049999

Police (PSNI): 0845 600 8000.

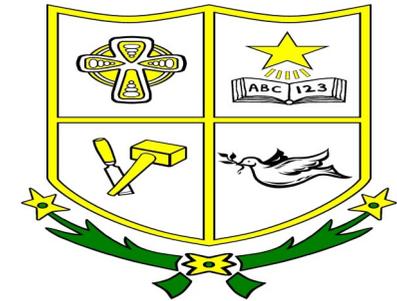
The St Joseph's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy is

available in full from the school office

The Welfare of each child is our paramount consideration.



Child Protection & Safeguarding



**St Joseph's Primary
School**

**Key Information
for**

Parents and Carers

Introduction

We in St Joseph's Primary School fully recognise our responsibilities for Child Protection. We are committed to ensuring every child can enjoy the right to live his/her life from harm or abuse, or potential harm or abuse; by providing a caring, supportive and safe environment, which values individuals for their unique talents and abilities, in which all our children can learn and develop to their full potential.

Safeguarding Definition

'Safeguarding encompasses both prevention and protection activity. It is the process of preventing impairment of children's health and development, and of ensuring they grow up safely and securely and are provided with effective care, all of which collectively enables them to attain greater success in adulthood.

Safeguarding also extends to protecting children from abuse or neglect, when it occurs, including the promotion and protection of children's rights.'

Principles

The following principles form the basis of our Child Protection Policy.

It is a child's right to feel safe at all times, to be heard, listened to and taken seriously.

We have a pastoral responsibility towards the children in our care and should take all reasonable steps to ensure their welfare is safeguarded and their safety is preserved.

In any incident the child's welfare must be paramount, this overrides all other considerations.

A proper balance must be struck between protecting children and respecting the rights and needs of parents and families, but where there is conflict the child's interests must always come first.

School Safeguarding Team

The following are members of the school safeguarding team

Designated Teacher (Mrs S McArdle)

Deputy Designated Teacher

(Ms MC Canavan)

Designated Governor for Child

Protection (Mrs Jane Bell)

Chair of Board of Governors and member of Safeguarding Team (Dr P McCartan)

How a parent can make a complaint or raise a concern

At St Joseph's Primary School we aim to work closely with the parents/guardians in supporting all aspects of the child's development and wellbeing. Any concerns a parent may have will be taken seriously and dealt with in a professional manner.

If a parent has a concern they can talk to the class teacher, the Designated teacher (Mrs Cousins), or the Principal (Mrs McArdle). If they are still concerned they may talk to the Chair of the Board of Governors (Dr McCartan).

At any time a parent can talk to a social worker in the local Gateway team.