Through our curriculum we help children learn to take responsibility for their own behaviour and we also make them aware of those people they can talk to if they are unhappy or have any problems.



All staff and volunteers at our school will undergo an Enhanced Criminal Records Check. The staff and volunteers involved will be made aware of the Code of Conduct for Staff.



This leaflet is intended as a summary of school procedures relating to safeguarding and child protection. A detailed copy of the school Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy is available on the School App or from the school office. Below are all related policies:

- Discipline
- Pastoral Care

Parents will give written consent for:

- Intimate Care
- Photography/Video Recording

TEL: 028 38 831555

Email: info@stjohns.gilford.ni.sch.uk



Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy Leaflet

Principal Mrs S Lyness

Designated Teacher
Mrs P Power

Deputy Designated Teacher
Miss C McCarthy

Designated Governor Mr P Gallagher

Chair of Governors Mr T Keeley

DEFINITION OF CHILD ABUSE

Child Abuse occurs when a child is neglected, harmed or not provided with proper care. They can be abused by those known to them or more rarely, by a stranger.

There are different types of Child Abuse.

Neglect:

The persistent failure to meet a child's physical, emotional and/or psychological needs, likely to cause significant harm, eg inadequate food, shelter, clothing and supervision.

Emotional:

The persistent emotional ill treatment of a child eg. conveying to a child that he is worthless, unloved or inadequate. Exposing a child to domestic violence, parental substance misuse or adult mental health problems.

Physical:

The deliberate physical injury to a child, or the wilful or neglectful failure to prevent physical injury or suffering eg. hitting, shaking, confinement to a room or inappropriately giving drugs to control behaviour.

Sexual:

Involves forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities eg physical contact or non contact activities such as looking at inappropriate material or watching sexual activities or encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways.

Exploitation:

The intentional ill-treatment, manipulation or abuse of power and control over a child; to take selfish or unfair advantage of a child or situation, for personal gain. It may manifest itself in many forms such as child labour, slavery, servitude, engagement in criminal activity, begging, benefit or other financial fraud or child trafficking.

CHILD PROTECTION PROCEDURES

If any parent has any concerns about their child or another child's welfare or safety, the following procedures may be followed.

I have a concern about my child's/a child's safety

I can talk to the Class Teacher

If I am still concerned I can talk to the Designated Teacher for Child protection: Mrs Power or the Deputy Designated Teacher Miss McCarthy or the Principal Mrs Lyness

If I am still concerned I can talk/write to the Chairperson of the Board of Governors: Mr T Keeley

At any time I can talk to the Social Worker: Tel: 0800 7837745 **Or** the PSNI Public Protection Unit: 0845 600 80000

If there are concerns that a child might be at risk, the school are obliged to make a referral to Social Services and/or PSNI. Parents will be informed of a decision to refer unless the school is guided not to do so.

Summary of procedures where a complaint has been made about possible abuse by a member of the school staff.

If the complaint is about somebody other than the Principal

Tell the Principal

The Principal will inform the chair of the BOG.

DENI 1999/10 (Section3) will be consulted to inform further actions

If the complaint is about the Principal

Inform the Designated Teacher who will inform the Chair of the BOG

DENI 1999/10 (Section3) will be consulted to inform further actions

No concern about the welfare of any child will be ignored by staff in the school. Children's safety and feeling secure and happy in their environment is of utmost importance to us and it is embedded in the ethos of the school.