



CHILDREN PROTECTION POLICY STATEMENT

We in Holy Family Primary School and Nursery Unit have a primary responsibility for the care, welfare and safety of the children in our charge, and we will carry out this duty through our Pastoral Care Policy. One way in which we seek to protect pupils is by helping them learn about the risks of possible abuse, helping them to recognise unwelcome behaviour in others and acquire the confidence and skills they need to keep themselves safe. All our staff are subject to appropriate background checks.

- The welfare of each child is our paramount consideration.
- The problem of child abuse will not be ignored by anyone who works in the school, and we know that some forms of child abuse are criminal offences.

Types of child abuse include – physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse and neglect.

PROCEDURES FOR SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE:

- The designated teacher for Child protection is **Ms McGranaghan**.
- The deputy designated teachers for Child protection are **Mrs Mc Callan** and **Mrs Shannon**.
- In the nursery unit **Mrs McDowell** is the deputy designated teacher.
- The designated Governor for child protection is **Mr Joe Killen**.
- If a child makes a disclosure to a member of staff, or the child show signs of abuse, the designated teacher must be informed immediately.
- The designated teacher will inform the Principal, and if child may be at risk, the school is **obligated** to make a referral to Social Services.
- The school does not investigate the allegation.
- Unless there are concerns that a parent may be the possible abuser, the parents will be informed immediately.
- If an allegation of abuse is made against a member of staff, the member of staff may be suspended pending a full investigation.

ADDRESSING BULLYING

If a concern is raised about bullying type behaviour it will be dealt with in accordance with our Addressing Bullying Behaviour policy, available on our school website.

Full copies of the Child Protection Policy, Addressing Bullying Behaviour Policy and other pastoral policies are available on the school website:

www.holyfamilypsbelfast.org.uk

