



St. Mary's Primary School,
67 Downpatrick Street,
Rathfriland,
Co. Down
BT34 5DQ
Tel: 028 406 30630
www.stmarysrathfriland.co.uk

8/9/2020

Dear Parent,

Attached is a summary of procedures for Safeguarding and Child Protection in St. Mary's P.S.

Due to the restrictions from Covid-19 please acknowledge receipt of the summary by emailing me at pmackle402@c2kni.net, stating that you have received the summary.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs P Mackle

Designated Teacher for Child Protection

St. Mary's P.S Rathfriland



SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION INFORMATION

St. Mary's P.S is fully committed to the care and protection of all our children. We aim to protect our pupils by ensuring that all staff, both teaching and non-teaching are trained and have clear guidance on the detection and inter-agency management of child protection issues.

Our Child Protection Policy is based on the following:

- Children should be listened to.
- In any incident, the protection of the child is always paramount.
- That a balance is struck between protecting the child and respecting the rights and needs of parents and families. However, where there is conflict, the child's safety **must always** come first.

All staff contact with pupils in St. Mary's will follow the guidelines described in the DENI publication.

Safeguarding and Child Protection in Schools
A Guide for schools (updated September 2019)

The Safeguarding Team:

- The Principal - Miss McConville
- Designated Teacher for Child Protection - Mrs Mackle
- The Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection - Mrs Farrelly
- Designated Governor for Child Protection - Mrs Kellie O'Donnell
- Chairperson of the Board of Governors - Mr Mark Gracey

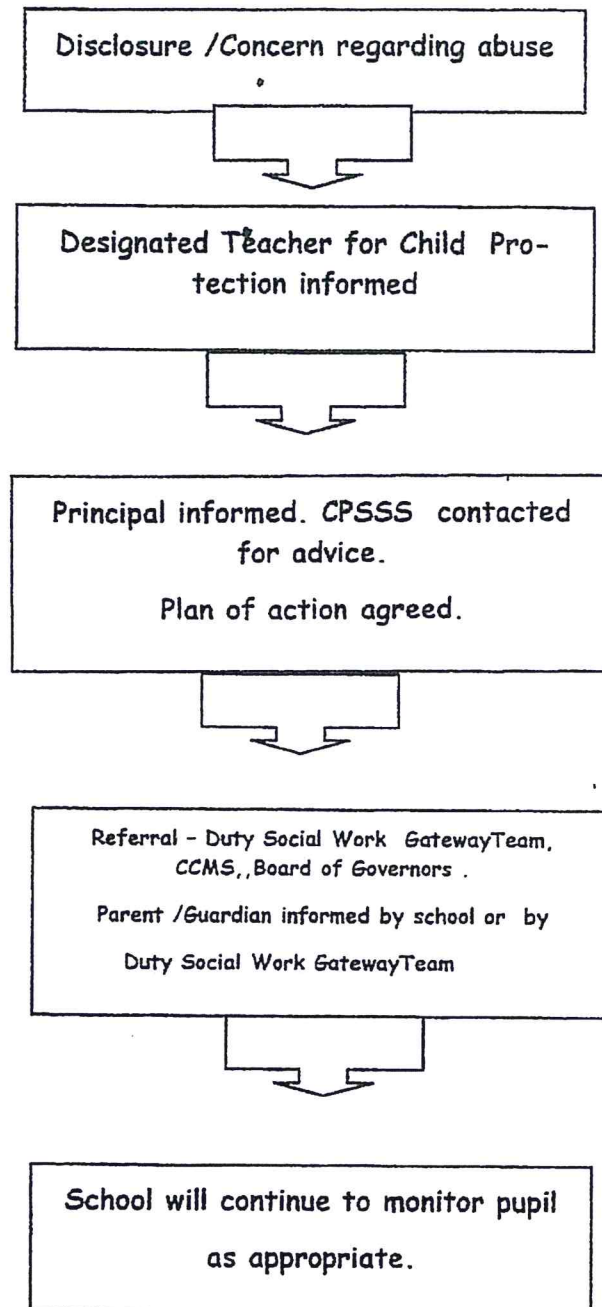
If a child discloses to a member of staff that he/she is being abused, the member of staff will inform the Designated Teacher, who will inform the Principal. CPSSS will be contacted. The Deputy Social Work Gateway Team, Lingally House Armagh will be contacted.

If a complaint is made against a member of staff, the Principal will investigate and depending on the outcome report to the Chair of the Board of Governors, the Designated Teacher and Deputy Social Work Gateway Team, Lingally House Armagh.

Written records of all incidents relating to child abuse and the actions taken will be kept by the school in a safe and secure place, which is only accessed by the Designated Teacher and the Principal.

In cases of suspected child abuse the school will NOT be involved in investigating the abuse. The action taken is that of informing the Deputy Social Work Gateway Team, Lingally House Armagh, Education Authority Southern Region, CCMS and the Board of Governors.

SUMMARY OF PROCEDURES



Contacts

S.t Mary's Primary School
02840630630

PSNI Central Referral Unit
02890259299

Duty Social Worker Gateway Team Southern
02837415285

Complaints -

Northern Ireland Public Services Ombudsman
02890233821

E-mail: nipso@nipso.org.uk

Women's Aid
08009171414

The full policy can be viewed on the school website.

www.st.marysrathfriland.co.uk