



Ballyvester Primary School

Summary of Policy and Procedures on Child Protection

At Ballyvester we have a primary responsibility for the care, welfare and safety of the pupils in our charge. The purpose of having a Policy for Child Protection is to protect our pupils by ensuring that everyone who works in our school, teachers, non-teaching staff and volunteers, have clear guidance on the action, which is required, where abuse or neglect of a child is suspected.

Consequently, all school staff will receive Child Protection training. A full copy of the Child Protection policy will be issued to every member of staff each time it is reviewed and amended, and is available to parents on request.

As adults working with children in the Education Sector, we are legally bound to take action on all allegations or disclosures of abuse or neglect.

All teachers are subject to appropriate vetting procedures when entering employment and all non-teaching staff and volunteers in our school are screened by Access NI.

The Child Protection policy includes a Code of Conduct for Employees.

Each school year children are made aware of whom they can speak to if they have concerns or worries, and posters are displayed with relevant Childline information in prominent positions around the school.

Our Safeguarding Team consists of the Principal and Designated Teacher for Child Protection, Mrs K Hunter and Deputy Designated Teacher, Mrs L Greenald.

This team also includes the Chairman of the Board of Governors, Mr B Brown, the Designated Board of Governor, Mrs C Rankin and SENCO Miss A Robinson. However these individuals do not have any role in terms of dealing with individual child protection matters.

If you have a concern regarding the safety or welfare of a child at our school, please bring it to our attention and we'll ensure the child receives help.

Concerns Procedure for Parents

What should I do if I have a concern about my or another child's safety or wellbeing?

1. I can talk to the class teacher.
2. If I am still concerned, I can talk to Mrs K Hunter, Designated Teacher for Child Protection or if the Designated Teacher is not available, the Deputy Designated Teacher, Mrs L Greenald.
3. If I am still concerned, I can talk/write to the Chairman of the Board of Governors, via the school address.

Important Contact Numbers

Childline 0800-1111

Child Protection 0300 1000 300

**Gateway Team 028 9181 8518
(Social Services)**