



Child Protection

Introduction

In our school we respect our children. The atmosphere within our school is one that encourages all children to do their best. We provide opportunities that enable our children to take and make decisions for themselves.

Our teaching of personal, social and health education and citizenship, as part of the Curriculum, helps to develop appropriate attitudes in our children and makes them aware of the impact of their decisions on others. We also teach them how to recognize different risks in different situations, and how to behave in response to them.

Child abuse is when a child is hurt or harmed by another person in a way that causes significant harm to that child and which may have an effect on the child's development or well-being. The health, safety and well-being of all our children are of paramount importance to all the adults who work in our school. Our children have the right to protection, regardless of age, gender, race, culture or disability. They have a right to be safe in our school

Aims and Objectives

This policy ensures that all staff in our school are clear about the actions necessary with regard to a child protection issue. Its aims are:

To raise the awareness of all staff and identify responsibility in reporting possible cases of abuse.

To ensure effective communication between all staff when dealing with child protection issues.

To lay down the correct procedures for those who encounter an issue of child protection.

Procedures

The people in our school who are contacted regarding Child Protection issues are the Head of Student Welfare (Secondary) or the Head of Primary.

If any teacher suspects that a child in his/her class may be a victim of abuse, they must immediately inform the named person about their concerns. Abuse can be of a verbal, sexual, emotional or physical nature. It can also be the result of neglect.



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Any action that the named person takes when dealing with an issue of child protection must be recorded.

All parties involved handle such investigations in a sensitive manner, but the interest of the child is of paramount importance.

We regard all information relating to individual child protection issues as confidential, and we treat this accordingly. We only pass information on to appropriate persons. We ensure safe selection and recruitment practices are always followed.

We require all adults employed in school to have their application vetted through police records in order to ensure that there is no evidence of offences involving children or abuse.

There may be times when adults in our school, in the course of their duty, use physical intervention to restrain children. The adult involved in any such incident must report this to the senior Teacher student welfare or Head of Primary immediately and to record it in the interventions book.

All adults in the school are aware of their responsibility to report any concerns regarding the health and well being of the children; the paramount importance of total confidentiality and sensitivity must be recognized at all times.

Monitoring and Review:

This policy will be reviewed in the Spring Term 2017