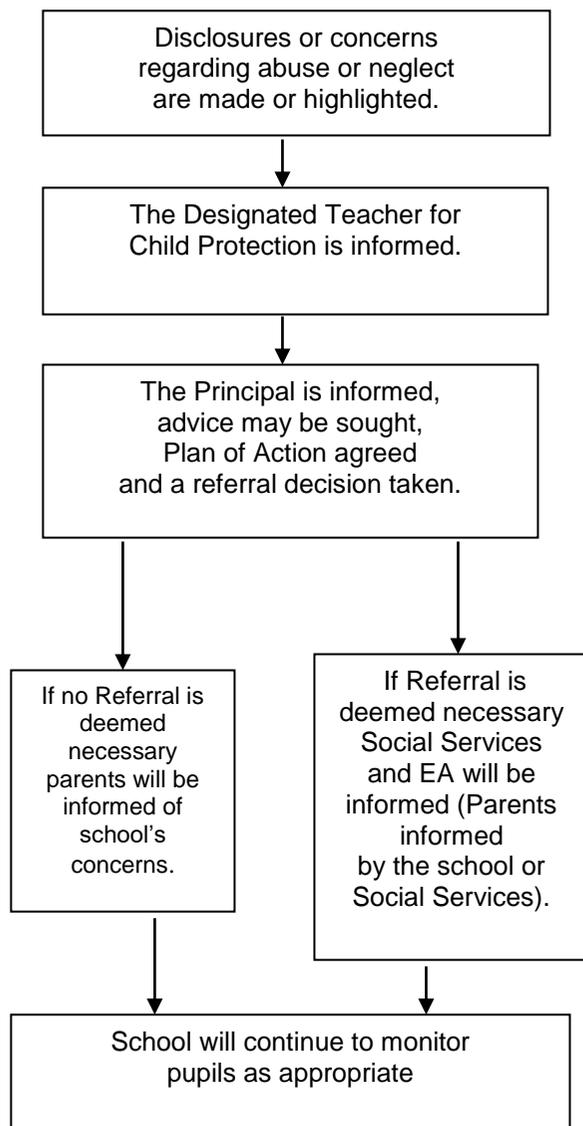


## **Child Protection/Safeguarding Procedures**

Summary for Parents / Guardians



## **Partnership with Parents**

In Our Lady's P.S we believe it is essential to foster trust and good relationships with the parents/carers of our pupils. A close partnership between home and school will help ensure that all our young people learn and develop to their full potential in a caring, supportive and safe environment. Good communication is imperative if we are to achieve this.

If you have any concerns about any aspect of your child's education, please contact the school and an appointment will be arranged for you to meet with one or both of the following members of staff:

- Class Teacher
- SENCO
- Principal.

We would also encourage you to attend our yearly Parent Teacher meetings. In turn, members of staff are encouraged to keep parents/carers fully informed regarding a pupil's progress and development.

This leaflet is intended as a summary of many aspects of Pastoral Care in Our Lady's P.S. The following more detailed policy statements are available on request:

- Pastoral Care
- Positive Behaviour
- Anti-Bullying
- Child Protection/Safeguarding
- Intimate Care

**Our Lady's P.S.**



**Pastoral Care**

**Information for Parents**

**Child Protection  
(Safeguarding)**

In our Pastoral Care approach we aim to provide and sustain an atmosphere of caring for our pupils at all stages of their academic, spiritual, personal and social development.

The Principal coordinates the delivery of Pastoral Care in our School.

As part of our Pastoral Care Policy a Child Protection/Safeguarding Policy operates in Our Lady's P.S. In it we aim to protect our pupils as our main concern is that the care, welfare and safety of the children in our charge remain paramount.

To that end we ensure that:

- everyone who works in our school is aware of the signs and symptoms of all forms of abuse.
- there is a code of conduct for all staff.
- a security system is installed in the school.

All staff paid or unpaid who are appointed to positions in the School are vetted / supervised in accordance with relevant legislation and Departmental guidance.

In all cases of suspected child abuse in Our Lady's Primary School a strict procedure will be adhered to, that of - informing Social Services and the Education Authority. The school will **not** be involved in investigating the suspected abuse.

### Contact Names:

#### Child Protection/Safeguarding Team

**Vice Principal/Designated Teacher:**  
**Mr Aidan Forker – P1 → P7**

**Deputy Designated Teacher:**  
**Mrs Karina O Hara - P1 → P7**

**Principal:**  
**Mr Tomás Mc Kee**

It should be noted that information given to members of staff about possible child abuse can not be held in 'confidence'. In the interests of the child, staff may need to share this information with other professionals. However, only those who need to know will be told.

Full copies of the Pastoral Care, Intimate Care and Child Protection/Safeguarding policies are available from the school office and will be on our school website.

These are reviewed regularly and updated as necessary.

## **Pastoral Care in Schools** **Child Protection/Safeguarding**

If you, as parent or guardian, have a **concern:**

You can talk to the class teacher

If you are still concerned, you can talk to the Designated Teacher for Child Protection.

If you are still concerned you can talk to the Principal.

If you are still concerned you can talk to the Chairman of the Board of Governors.

At any time, you can talk / write to the Duty Social Worker (Gateway Team tel: 02837567100 or 02895049999), (NSPCC tel:0808 800 5000), or the Police (<tel:101> non- emergency number).

*If you have escalated your concern as set out in the above flowchart, and are of the view that it has not been addressed satisfactorily, you may revert to our complaints policy which provides you with the option of contacting the NI Public Services Ombudsman (NIPSO) who has the legislative power to investigate your complaint.*