

Macosquin Primary School



Child Protection and Safeguarding Information for Parents

2018-19



Aims:

Macosquin Primary School aims to establish a caring environment within which the academic, personal, social and spiritual potential of each child will be developed. The pastoral dimension permeates all school activities.

We have a primary responsibility for the care, welfare and safety of the pupils in our charge and we will carry out this duty through our pastoral care policy which aims to provide a caring, supportive and safe environment.

Principles:

Our Child Protection Policy is based on the following principles:

- The child's welfare must always be paramount.
- Children must always have a right to be heard, to be listened to and to be taken seriously.
- Parents/carers have a right to respect but a proper balance must be struck between ensuring this and protecting children.
- Every child has the fundamental right to be safe from harm and have proper care given to their physical, emotional and spiritual well-being.

School Safeguarding Team:

The members of the School's Safeguarding Team are:

The Chair of the Board of Governors:

Mr Alistair Kennedy

The Designated Governor for Child Protection:

Mr Dave Pavey

The School Principal:

Mrs Louanne McElwee

The Designated Teacher for Child Protection:

Miss Lorna Stevenson

The Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection: **Mrs Cathy Allen**

Procedures:

In order to protect our pupils we at Macosquin Primary School will adhere to the following procedures.

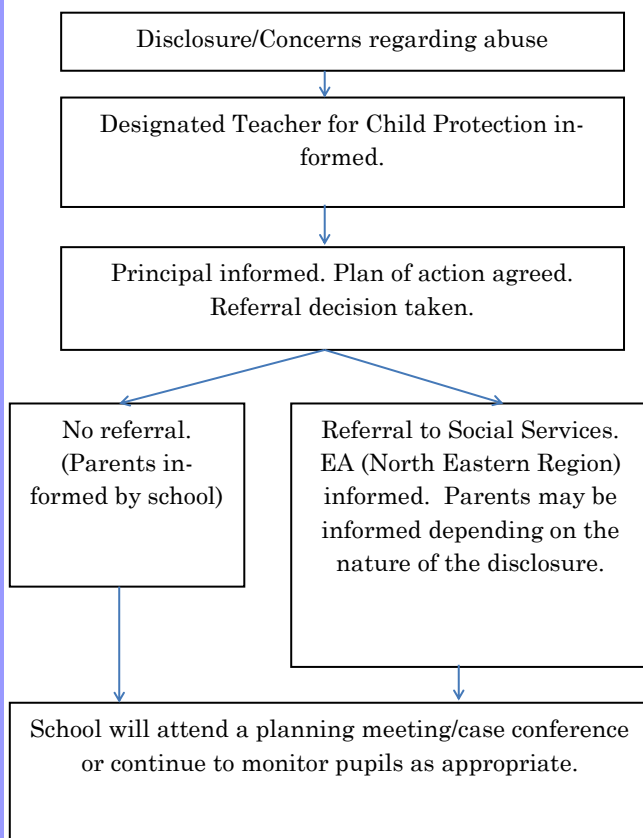
- All staff and volunteers will have clear guidance on the action which is required where abuse or neglect is suspected.
- All staff and volunteers will undergo a vetting procedure in order to maintain the highest standard of professional care towards our children.
- All teaching and ancillary staff will attend a Child Protection training programme organised by the Designated Teacher.
- Children will be supervised at all times while in the school grounds.
- When it is necessary to change the child's normal travel arrangements permission will only be given on receipt of a written request or telephone call by a parent/guardian.
- All visitors to the school must report to the Secretary's office.
- Pupils are not permitted to have access to or use of mobile telephones at school.

Bullying:

Bullying is a highly distressing and damaging form of abuse and will be responded to sensitively in our school. All staff will be vigilant at all times and will aim to prevent bullying by raising awareness with pupils, staff and parents about bullying, its forms and consequences. All staff at Macosquin Primary School will ensure that all children are aware of who they can talk to if they are sad, worried, being bullied or have any other concerns. The Designated Teacher for Child Protection is Miss Stevenson and the Deputy, Mrs Thompson will assume responsibility in her absence.

The Department of Education of Northern Ireland requires all those working in education to co-operate fully with social services and other agencies to protect children. It is therefore our duty to refer if there is a concern about any form of abuse.

The following diagram shows the procedures we are required to follow and is based upon the procedure described in The Department of Education publication 'Pastoral Care in School-Child Protection (1999)'



Pastoral Care:

Macosquin Primary School is committed to the provision of a high quality of education for all pupils and high standards to all whom it serves.

We believe that the fostering of trust and good relationships with the parents/guardians of our pupils is very important. A close partnership between home and school should help ensure that all our children learn and develop to their full potential in a caring, supportive and safe environment. Good communication is essential if we are to achieve this.

If you have any concerns about any aspect of your son/daughter's care/education please contact the school and arrange a meeting with the Principal and/or the class teacher.

We would also encourage you attend our Parent-Teacher meeting so that members of staff can keep you informed regarding your child's progress and development.

If you have any concerns about your child's safety you should use the following procedures to make a complaint:

- I have a concern about my child's safety
- I can talk to the teacher
- If I am still concerned I can talk to the Designated Teacher for Child Protection/Principal
- If I am still concerned I can talk/write to the Chairman of the Board of Governors

At any time I can talk to the Social Worker in Gateway (Tel: 028 713 14090) or the PSNI Public Protection (Tel: 0845 600 8000)

This leaflet can only provide a summary of our Child Protection Policy, the more detailed policy is available on request from the school office. Contact details are provided below.

This policy is reviewed annually and this summary is issued to parents every 2 years. Should you have any questions to ask or comments to make in relation to the content of this leaflet or the full policy, please do not hesitate to contact the Designated Teacher for Child Protection.

The following are a list of other related Pastoral Care Policies which are also available from the school:

Positive Behaviour Policy

Anti-Bullying

Use of Reasonable Force/Safe Handling

Educational visits

First Aid and the Administration of Medicines

Health and Safety Policy

Relationships and Sexual Education

Use of mobile Phones/Cameras

Intimate Care

Comments/Complaints

Useful Contact Details:

School Address:

34 Dunderg Road, Macosquin, BT51 4ND

Telephone: 028 70 344 317

Email: lmcclwee632@c2kni.net

Social Services Gateway Team:

028 70 325 462

PSNI Public Protection Unit: 0845 600 8000