

What is safeguarding?

Safeguarding is the action that is taken to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm.

Safeguarding means:



- protecting children from abuse and maltreatment
- preventing harm to children's health or development
- ensuring children grow up with the provision of safe and effective care
- Taking action to enable all children and young people to have the best outcomes.

Principles

- Children have a right to be safe, to be listened to, valued and respected:
 - Parents and carers have a right to be informed of any concerns regarding their child. We will inform parents/carers of any concerns about your child (providing it does not compromise the child's safety) and will support them if necessary.
- Children are best protected when parents and school work together.
- All staff and volunteers are given appropriate training and support.
- All staff and volunteers are subject to rigorous recruitment checks.



Principles in Practice

In order to ensure children are effectively protected we ensure that: -

- We have a full Safeguarding team with responsibility for safeguarding and child protection.
- Our Safeguarding Team attend Designated Safeguarding Lead training every 2 years
- All staff are trained in Level 1 Safeguarding Training which is updated every 3 years.
- There is a safeguarding slot in staff meetings to ensure staff are continually trained and updated on Government changes.
- A child friendly safeguarding leaflet and policy has been designed by our school council.
- A visitor and volunteer guide is given to all visitors on their first visit to the school.
- Staff receive regular training around Safeguarding in their weekly staff meetings. This also ensures staff are updated on government changes.
- The safeguarding policy is reviewed annually and updated inline with any updates in the Keeping Children Safe in Education policy.
- Staff will take positive action to prevent children from suffering abuse and neglect through the development of our curriculum and open culture that informs children of their rights and encourages them to speak about any concerns. Children will also learn how to keep themselves safe.
- The Safeguarding Team will refer all allegations or concerns that a child has been or is likely to be abused or neglected to Social Care within the children's services department.
- The Safeguarding team will consult with other agencies when there are concerns that a child may have been abused or neglected. We will discuss with parents/carers any concerns they have about children. Parents/carers will be kept informed of what has happened.

Child protection is part of the safeguarding process. It focuses on protecting individual children identified as suffering or likely to suffer significant harm. This includes child protection procedures which detail how to respond to concerns about a child.

Child Protection Conferences - The Designated Safeguarding Lead or one of our Deputies will attend conferences and provide information about children/families. This information will be shared with parents/carers beforehand. We will keep confidential child protection records separately securely on CPOMS (Child Protection Online Management Services)

Child on Child Abuse - Physical and emotional abuse of children by other children will be dealt with through the behaviour policy. Parents/carers will be kept informed. We have a fantastic definition to help everyone, 'Is it rude, mean or bullying?'

Children Services — The main purpose of Children's Services is to support and protect vulnerable children. This includes providing children and their families with extra help. Where children are thought to be at risk of harm, Children's Services will take steps which aim to make sure they are kept safe.

Confidentiality - Information from parents/carers about possible child abuse cannot be kept confidential. Information and records about children on the child protection register will be given to those people who need it and will be kept strictly confidential by them.

Here at St. Patricks, we have a full team dedicated to Safeguarding, they are:

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL):

Mrs Clinton— Executive Headteacher

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads:

Mrs Kennedy - Head of Schools

Mrs Shaw –SENDCo

Mrs Loughrey- class teacher

Mrs Gordon—class teacher

Mr Eaglestone—class teacher





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Information for Parents about Safeguarding and Child Protection

At St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Primary School, Safeguarding and Child Protection are paramount to the life of our school.

All staff and visitors to the school are expected to have read and follow our policies and information related to Safeguarding. These are available on the school website or on request from the school office.



**National Nurturing
School Award
2023**

