



Strandtown
Primary School

Strandtown Primary School



Safeguarding & Child Protection A Guide for Parents

Reviewed September 2022

Safeguarding & Child Protection Procedures

The care, safety and welfare of each child must be the paramount consideration of all members of staff. Everyone who works in our school will be alert to the problems of child abuse and the protection of pupils. The conduct of school staff towards pupils must be above reproach.

Aims

- To offer the best possible protection to the pupils of our school.
- To ensure that the staff of our school – both teaching and non-teaching – have clear guidance on the action which is required where abuse or neglect of a child is suspected.
- To ensure that all members of staff are aware of the possible signs and symptoms of abuse.

School Times

The school day commences at staggered starts of:

8:45am (Years 4 & 5)

8:55am (Years 6 & 7)

Pupils will only be supervised from this time. To safeguard our pupils we ask that they **do not** arrive to school earlier than necessary.

- *Please note school doors will open 5 minutes early in inclement weather*

Safeguarding Team

The Safeguarding Team in Strandtown consists of:

Chairperson of BOG-
Designated Governor-
Principal-
Vice Principal-
Designated Teacher-
Deputy Designated Teacher-
E Safety Coordinator-

Mrs N. Gilbert
Mrs B Conaghan
Mrs V Hutchinson
Miss W Bailie
Mr C Devine
Miss P Courtenay
Mr M Craig



The principal will call a meeting of the team when relevant issues arise.

The Safeguarding team will meet throughout the year to discuss Child Protection and Safeguarding arrangements.

Procedures

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

Where a child raises a concern with a teacher

-  **RECEIVE** Listen to what a child says but do not ask leading questions.
-  **REASSURE** the child that they will be safe and that their interests will come first.
-  **REACT** Only to ensure that the child is safe and secure.
-  **RECORD** what you have seen and heard and the date and time.
-  **REPORT** your concerns immediately to the designated teacher, **Mr. C Devine** or in his absence, to the deputy designated teacher, **Miss P Courtenay**.

Where a teacher or other member of staff has a concern about a pupil's welfare

-  **DISCUSS** your concerns with the designated teacher, **Mr. C Devine** or in his absence, to the deputy designated teacher, **Miss P Courtenay**.

This should be done by the teacher or other member of staff before they speak to the child

-  **SEEK FURTHER ADVICE** from the designated teacher if concerns persist. He/she may suggest that you speak to the child.
-  **CHAT INFORMALLY** with the child. This should be done discreetly. Avoid being alone with the child.
-  **RECORD** what you have heard and the date and time so that this can be passed on to the designated teacher.

In all cases where a child shares information of a concerning nature with a teacher or other member of staff, it must be made clear that it may not be possible to keep this confidential. In order to protect children from harm, cases may arise where confidentiality must be subordinated to the need to take appropriate action by informing and involving others.



Strandtown 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 child's care/education, please contact the school and arrange a meeting with the Principal and/or the class teacher.

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



- I have a concern about my/a child's safety.**
- I can talk to the Head of Year / Class Teacher or if appropriate The Principal**
- If I am still concerned, I can talk to Mr. Devine the designated teacher for child protection or if appropriate The Principal**
- If I am still concerned, I can talk/write to the Chairperson of the Board of Governors**
- If I am still concerned, I can contact the NI Public Services Ombudsman Tel:0800 343 424**
- At any time, I can talk to the local Children's Services Gateway Team or PSNI Central Referral Unit at 02890259299**

***If a parent has a concern about a child's safety or suspect child abuse within the local community, it should be brought directly to the attention of the Children's Services.**

This leaflet can only provide a summary of our Safeguarding and Child Protection policy, a more detailed policy is available on request from the school office or it can be accessed on the school's website.

The following are a list of other related pastoral care policies which are also available from the school (or on web site).

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| Positive Behaviour | Anti Bullying | Educational Visits | Intimate care |
| Residential Trips | Bereavement | Emergency Evacuation | Critical Incident |
| Admin. of Medicines | Use of the Internet and Mobile Technologies. | | |
| Reasonable Force and Safe Handling | | Drugs | |