

St Margaret's C.E, Primary School aims are that growing spiritually together everybody matters and anything is possible.



Child Protection Policy

RATIONALE

Our school fully recognises the importance of effective practice in this area. Prevention should be through teaching and pastoral support offered to pupils. Procedures need to be in place for identifying and reporting cases of suspected abuse as staff are often well placed to observe outward signs. School also recognises the importance of supporting pupils who may have been abused. This policy applies to all staff, governors, volunteers, teaching assistants, lunchtime supervisors and support staff. Concerned parents may also contact school governors.

PURPOSES

We recognise that high self-esteem, confidence, supportive friends and good lines of communication with a trusted adult is vitally important. We will also follow the procedures set out in the Child Protection Policy and Procedures Document.

BROAD GUIDELINES

School will Establish and maintain an ethos:

- where children feel secure and are encouraged to talk and are listened to
- children know there are adults in school whom they can approach if they are worried or in difficulty
- the curriculum equips children with the skills they need to stay safe
- the Headteacher is the senior designated person whose training is regularly updated
- staff are alert to signs of abuse, aware of who to report concerns to, what action needs to be taken and are aware of the timescales recommended
- staff should also be aware of the additional responsibilities if a child is on the Child Protection Register
- school will ensure the prospectus outlines its responsibilities for Child Protection
- school will ensure that new staff receive updated training as relevant
- all staff are responsible for keeping clear records noting day, date, event
- action taken of any concerns even if no further action is taken
- all confidential records are kept secure in locked locations
- the Headteacher will ensure that all staff applicants have CRB clearance
- any complaints against staff will be handled in accordance with the Education Department's Policy
- the Headteacher will ensure liaison with other agencies is thorough and that records are transferred as required

CONCLUSION

The most important element of this policy includes the supporting of children at risk. The school provides a stable, secure and predictable pattern for the children. The behaviour policy outlines how we seek to support all children including the vulnerable ones - that we always focus on the behaviour rather than the child so as not to further damage self-esteem. School also provides a counsellor who meets in school with any designated child for 6x 1 hour sessions.

Further reference could be made to Child Protection Policy and Procedures - a more detailed document of which this is a summary. Please ask at the School Office. **November 2012**