

Knockavoe School is committed to the nurturing provision of a high-quality education for all our pupils. We believe that the fostering of trust and the development of good relationships with the Parents/Carers of our pupils is very important.

A close partnership between home and school will ensure that all our children learn and develop to their full potential in a caring, nurturing, supportive and rights respecting 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 or education, please contact the school and arrange a meeting with your child's teacher.

We would also encourage you to attend our Annual Review meetings and correspond through Home/School diary 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 procedure:

I have a concern about my child's safety:

- I can talk to the Class Teacher/SLT
- If I am still concerned, I can talk to the Designated Teacher for Child Protection ([Gráinne Dunne](#)) or Deputy Child Protection teachers ([Emma Mc Ginn & Catherine Burke](#)).
- If I am still concerned, I can talk to the Principal ([Sharon Cassidy](#))
- If I am still concerned I can talk/write to the Chairman of the Board of Governors ([June Neill](#))

At any time, I can talk to the:

Social Worker in Gateway team tel: 028 71314090

This leaflet can only provide a summary of our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and a more detailed policy is available on our website. This leaflet is available on school website also. Contact details are provided below.

This policy will be reviewed annually, and a leaflet update issued to parents at least once 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 school.

The following list details other related Safeguarding policies which are also available from the school website www.knockavoe.com



Contact Details:

School Address: 10a Melmount Gardens, Strabane, Co. Tyrone, BT82 9EB

Tel Number: (028) 71883319

E-Mail Address: info@knockavoe.strabane.ni.sch.uk



Safeguarding and Child Protection Summary

2024 - 2025

Knockavoe School



Our School Vision & Mission

'Reaching for a Brighter Future'

Aims & Principles

Knockavoe School aims to establish a caring, rights respecting environment - within which the emotional, academic, personal, social, and spiritual potential of each child may be developed. We promote the UNCRRC rights of the child on all safeguarding matters.

We have a primary responsibility for the care, welfare, and safety of all the pupils in our care and we will carry out this duty through our Safeguarding Policy which underpins everything we do at school to provide a caring, supportive, and safe environment. Our school ethos is based on building positive relationships through our core values.



Our Safeguarding Policy is based on the following Principles:

- The child or young person's welfare is paramount
- The voice of the child or young person should be heard. *(The right to be heard Article 12 UNCRRC).*
- Parents are supported to exercise parental responsibility
- Partnership
- Prevention
- Responses should be proportionate to the circumstances
- Protection
- Evidence based and informed decision making

School Safeguarding Team

Members of the Schools Safeguarding team are:

- The Chair of the Board of Governors (June Neill)
- The Designated Governor for Child Protection (June Neill)
- The School Principal (Sharon Cassidy)
- The Designated Teacher for Child Protection (Gráinne Dunne)
- The Deputy Designated Teachers for Child Protection (Emma Mc Ginn & Catherine Burke)

Members of the team have clear roles and responsibilities in relation to the safeguarding of pupils within the school and these are detailed in our Safeguarding Policy.

Safeguarding Practices

In order to protect our pupils, all staff at Knockavoe will adhere to the following practices and procedures:

- All staff- teachers, non-teaching staff, auxiliary staff and volunteers will have clear guidance on the action which is required where abuse or neglect is suspected.
- Staff will only report facts based on observations and/or disclosures and seek advice from EA Child Protection Support Services.
- All staff and volunteers will undergo a vetting procedure to maintain the highest standard of professional care and safeguarding towards our children.
- All teaching and ancillary staff will attend Child Protection training programme annually, 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, sign in and wear a visitor's badge.

Bullying Type Behaviour

At Knockavoe School we believe all forms of bullying type behaviour are unacceptable. We believe that all pupils have the right to learn in a safe, calm, nurturing, and supportive learning environment in line with the school ethos and values that we promote. *(All children have the right to be protected from being hurt or badly treated Article 19 UNCRRC).*

We are committed to a school ethos where bullying type behaviour is unacceptable and where every child and young person feel safe.

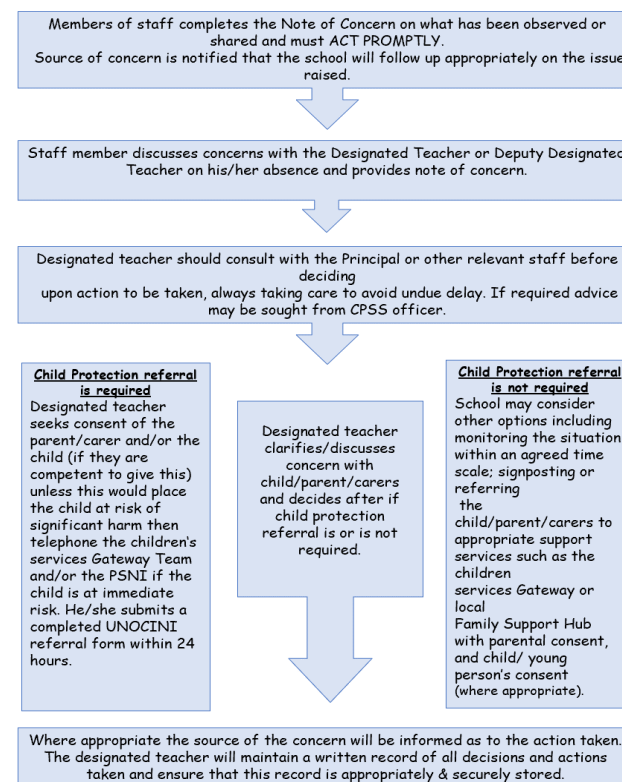
See our Anti-Bullying Policy for further information and advice.

All staff at Knockavoe School will ensure that children are aware of who they can talk to if they are sad, worried, experiencing bullying type behaviour or have any other concerns.

The Designated Teacher for Child Protection is [Grainne Dunne](#) and the Deputy Designated Teachers, [Emma Mc Ginn](#) & [Catherine Burke](#) will assume responsibility in her absence, in consultation with the Principal.

Appendix 6 (from CP Policy)

Procedure where the school has concerns, or has been given information, about the possible abuse by someone other than a member of staff.



It is essential that the school has up to date contact details for all parents/carers with parental responsibility.