

How a Parent can Express a Concern

I have a concern about my/a Child's Safety

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I can talk to the Class Teacher

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If I am still concerned I can talk to:
Mrs O Mallon
Designated Child Protection Officer

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If I am still concerned I can talk to:
Mrs F McConway Principal
Deputy Designated Child Protection Officer

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If I am still concerned, I can talk/write to the Chairperson of the Board of Governors Mr K Traynor or Child Protection Governor Mrs M Gribbin.

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If you have escalated your concern as set out above and are of the view that it has not been addressed satisfactorily, you may revert to the school's complaints policy. The policy should cumulate in the option for you to contact the NI Public Services Ombudsman (NIPSO) who has the legislative power to investigate your complaint.

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At anytime you can talk to the local Children's Services Gateway Team or the PSNI Central Referral Unit (02890259299)

Contacts and Helplines

By Letter: The Principal
104 Moneynick Road
Toomebridge
BT41 3HS

By Telephone: 028 796 50331

By E-mail
info@moneynickps.randalstown.ni.sch.uk

Social Services - Antrim
Tel: 02894416555 (9am-5pm)

Homefirst Community Trust
Tel: 028 2531 3000

NSPCC Helpline
24hrs – 808 800 5000

NI Childline
Tel: 0800 1111

Save the Children
Tel: 028 9043 1123

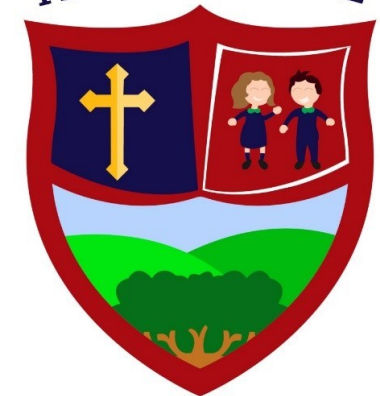


Fiona McConway November 2024

Child Protection

A GUIDE FOR PARENTS

**MONEYNICK
PRIMARY SCHOOL**



Child Protection is Everybody's Business



School Policy

We in Moneynick Primary School have a responsibility for the Pastoral Care, general welfare and safety of the children in our care and we will carry out this duty by providing a caring, supportive and safe environment, where each child is valued for his or her unique talents and abilities, and in which all our young people can learn and develop to their full potential. We at Moneynick Primary School strive to create a secure, happy and caring environment in which pupils can learn and develop all their talents. There is a whole school structured approach to Pastoral Care, promoting an ethos that contributes to the care, safety and well-being of all the children in our school. It is our aim that the growth of the child will be fostered in a secure environment where Christian values are lived daily. It is our responsibility to ensure that all individuals are protected from risks of possible abuse.

We seek to protect our pupils by helping them learn about the risks of possible abuse, helping them recognise unwelcomed behaviour in others, and acquire the confidence and skills to keep themselves safe. We do this via PDMU, Internet Safety lessons, Anti-Bullying and Rights Respecting Assemblies.

We engage with outside agencies such as the NSPCC, RRS and the PSNI, who deliver keeping safe programmes to our children.

Safeguarding procedures are in place to ensure visitors and staff are vetted. We are an Operation Encompass School. Our Child Protection Training and Code of Conduct are updated annually.

All schools are required by law to have a Child Protection Policy and to communicate this to parents. A detailed Child Protection Policy is freely available on request from the school office.

What is Child Abuse?

Abuse can take any of the following forms:

Neglect:

The persistent or significant neglect of a child from exposure to any kind of danger, including cold or starvation, or persistent failure to carry out, important aspects of care, resulting in the significant impairment of the child's health or development.

Physical:

Physical injury to a child, whether deliberately inflicted or knowingly not prevented.

Sexual:

The sexual exploitation of a child or young person for an adult's or another young person's own sexual gratification; the involvement of children or young people in sexual activities of any kind.

Emotional:

Persistent or significant emotional ill-treatment or rejection, resulting in severe adverse effects on the emotional, physical and/or behavioural development of a child.

Exploitation:

The ill-treatment, manipulation or abuse of power and control over a child or young person.

Domestic Violence:

Threatening behaviour, violence or abuse (psychological, physical, verbal, sexual, financial or emotional) inflicted on one person by another where they are or have been intimate partners or family members, irrespective of gender or sexual orientation.

BULLYING

Staff at Moneynick Primary School recognise that bullying is also a distressing form of abuse and will not be tolerated. All staff will be vigilant and will implement the strategies from the Anti-Bullying Policy to help prevent this. It is our policy to educate all our children in an environment in which they themselves feel safe and secure.

Procedure for Reporting Suspected or Disclosed Child Abuse

If at any time, a child makes a disclosure to a member of staff that gives rise to concerns about possible abuse, or if a member of staff has concerns about a child, the member of staff will act immediately, and the following process will be applied:

He/she will speak confidentially to **Mrs O Mallon** (Designated Child Protection Officer) who will discuss any concerns with **Mrs F McConway** (Principal and Deputy Designated Child Protection Officer).

If appropriate, a referral will be made immediately to:

Social Services CCMS
Care Unit (PSNI) CPSS

Parents will be kept informed in line with statutory requirements.

Where a disclosure is made, the School is legally obliged to refer the matter to Social Services immediately.

The problem of child abuse, if it occurs, will not be ignored by anyone.