

Child Protection Policy

(Parent)

**SAINT
JOSEPH'S**



**NURSERY
SCHOOL**

Saint Joseph's Nursery
52 Greystone Road,
Antrim

Child Protection Policy

This policy is informed by the guidance and procedures set out by DE 'Safeguarding and Child Protection in Schools: A Guide for Schools (Updated September 2019), 'Co-operating to Safeguard Children and Young People in NI (August 2017), The Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland's (SBNI) Policies and Procedures and the Education Authority Safeguarding site. The Sexual Offences (NI) Order 2008 also introduced the concept of grooming (including online behaviours) and Abuse of a Position of Trust. The central ethos of The Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 is that the welfare of the child must be the paramount consideration in all decision concerning the child. This is also reflected in Article 3 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child - *the best interests of the child shall be of primary consideration*. Our chief concern is the health and wellbeing of the child and this underpins our Child Protection Policy and Procedures.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child states that:

"children have the right to be protected from all forms of violence: they must be kept safe from harm: they must be given proper care by those looking after them." (Article 19)

Article 3 states that:

"when adults or organisations make decisions which affect children, they must always think about what would be best for the child."

In accordance with this convention, the Children Order NI (1995) and the Education and Libraries (NI) Order 2003 which places a statutory duty on the Board of Governors to safeguard and promote the welfare of its pupils and to determine the measures to be taken at the school with a view to protecting pupils from abuse, governors together with all the staff of St Joseph's Nursery School subscribe to the sentiments expressed and have produced the following policy to inform all adults of procedures within the nursery school.

Safety and Welfare of children in our School

The Board of Governors have delegated Mrs Maguire as Designated Teacher to take the lead in safeguarding/child protection issues in the nursery.

All staff in the nursery do however have responsibility for the care, welfare and safety of all children in the school and take all reasonable care to ensure that the children's welfare and their safety is protected.

The Child Protection Ethos of caring for one another will reflect both our legal and our pastoral responsibilities. In order to protect our children, we will help them to learn about the risks of possible abuse, to recognise unwelcome behaviour in others and acquire the confidence and skills they need to keep themselves safe.

All our staff and volunteers have been subject to appropriate background checks. The nursery school staff have also discussed and adopted a Code of Conduct governing our behaviour towards children. This Code is set out in the appendix to this policy statement.

The purpose of the following procedures on Child Protection is to protect children by ensuring that everyone who comes into contact with children in our school - teachers, non-teaching staff, parents and volunteers - have clear guidance on the action that is required where abuse or neglect of a child is suspected. The overriding concern of all adults must be the care, welfare and safety of the child, and the welfare of each child is our paramount consideration. The problem of child abuse will not be ignored by anyone who works in our school, and we know that some forms of child abuse are also a criminal offence.

The designation of a teacher with specific responsibility for child protection should not be seen as diminishing the role of all members of staff in being alert to signs of abuse and being aware of the procedures to be followed, including those cases where an allegation is made against any member of the school's staff, teaching or non-teaching.

The Child Protection Support Service (CPSS) is available from Monday - Friday from 9.00am - 5.00pm on **02895985590**.

Roles and Responsibilities

Chairman of the Board of Governors and Designated Governor for Child Protection - Mr Raymond Flanagan; Designated Governor - Mrs Briege McWilliams

The Chairman of the Board of Governors plays an important role in creating the safeguarding ethos within the school environment.

Designated Teacher - Mrs Anne Maguire

As Principal and designated teacher Mrs Maguire has overall responsibility for the day to day running of the school and ensuring staff effectively follow the Child Protection Policy and Procedures.

Deputy Designated Teachers - Mrs Rhonda Goss and Miss Carly Lambert

To support and undertake the duties of the Designated Teacher for Child Protection as required.

Mental Health and Emotional Well Being

Staff aim to provide children with the information and skills to build healthy behaviours and relationships which will support children experiencing difficulties such as attachment disorder, school refusers, gender identity, self-harm. Children will be provided with the opportunity to develop good mental health and emotional resilience.

Specific attention will be given to our children's emotional wellbeing, health and safety, relationships and the development of a moral thinking and value system. This will be promoted through our 'Well Being Program'.

What is Child Abuse?

A child is a person under the age of 18 years as defined in the Children Order. Child abuse occurs when a child is neglected, harmed or not provided with proper care. A parent, sibling or another relative, a carer, an acquaintance or a stranger, who may be an adult or a young person, may abuse children. The abuse may be the result of a deliberate act or a failure on the part of the parent or carer, or both.

Children may be abused by a parent, sibling or other relative, a carer, an acquaintance or a stranger, who may be an adult or a young person. The abuse may be the result of a deliberate act or a failure on the part of the parent or carer, or both.

We use the following categories of child abuse:

Neglect

Neglect is the failure to provide for a child's basic needs, whether it be adequate food, clothing, hygiene, supervision or shelter that is likely to result in the serious impairment of a child's health or development. Children who are neglected often also suffer from other types of abuse.

Physical Abuse

Physical Abuse is deliberately physically hurting a child. It might take a variety of different forms, including hitting, biting, pinching, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning or suffocating a child.

Sexual Abuse

Sexual Abuse occurs when others use and exploit children sexually for their own gratification or gain or the gratification of others. Sexual abuse may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example, rape, or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside clothing. It may include non-contact activities, such as involving children in the production of sexual images, forcing children to look at sexual images or watch sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways or grooming a child in preparation for abuse (including via e-technology). Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children.

Emotional Abuse

Emotional Abuse is the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child. It is also sometimes called psychological abuse and it can have severe and persistent adverse

effects on a child's emotional development. Emotional abuse may involve deliberately telling a child that they are worthless, or unloved and inadequate. It may include not giving a child opportunities to express their views, deliberately silencing them, or 'making fun' of what they say or how they communicate. Emotional abuse may involve bullying - including online bullying through social networks, online games or mobile phones - by a child's peers.

Exploitation

Exploitation is the intentional ill-treatment, manipulation or abuse of power and control over a child or young person; to take selfish or unfair advantage of a child or young person or situation, for personal gain. It may manifest itself in many forms such as child labour, slavery, servitude, engagement in criminal activity, begging, benefit or other financial fraud or child trafficking. It extends to the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of children for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation can be sexual in nature.

Anti-Bullying Policy

Saint Joseph's Nursery has developed a positive anti-bullying policy.

This encourages:

- Children to develop positive behaviour, respecting themselves and others.
- Give children the strategies to deal with difficult situations.

The staff will endeavour to:

- deal with bullying behaviour through active classroom management.
- create an environment which promotes positive relationships, behaviour and attitudes
- discourage negative behaviour which is or could become bullying in nature and try to pre-empt issues arising

Definition of "bullying" - The Addressing Bullying in Schools Act (Northern Ireland) 2016

"In this Act "bullying" includes (but is not limited to) the repeated use of -

- (a) any verbal, written or electronic communication,*
- (b) any other act, or*
- (c) any combination of those,*

by a pupil or a group of pupils against another pupil or group of pupils, with the intention of causing physical or emotional harm to that pupil or group of pupils."

Bullying is behaviour that is usually repeated, which is carried out intentionally to cause hurt, harm or to adversely affect the rights and needs of another or others.

Staff appreciate that while bullying is usually repeated behaviour, there are instances of one-off incidents that the school will consider as bullying. Staff will assess these

one-off incidents, to decide if they should be classified under bullying or unacceptable behaviour.

The school will use the following criteria:

- the severity and significance of the incident
- evidence of pre-meditation
- impact of the incident on individuals (physical/emotional)
- impact of the incidents on wider school community
- previous relationships between those involved
- any previous incidents involving the individuals

Any incidents which are not considered bullying behaviour will be addressed under the Positive Behaviour Policy.

Staff understand that bullying is an emotive issue and will therefore ensure they use supportive, understanding language when discussing matters involving bullying behaviour. Staff will not refer to a child as 'a bully', or to a child as 'a victim'. Instead, staff will refer to the child by describing the situation surrounding that child -

- A child displaying bullying behaviours
- A child experiencing bullying behaviours

Children will also be encouraged to speak to a member of staff if they have noticed another child is upset or have observed bullying behaviour.

Parents/carers are reminded of their responsibility to raise concerns about alleged bullying behaviour at the earliest opportunity. Parents are also reminded to encourage their children to react appropriately to bullying behaviour by speaking to the teacher and not do anything to retaliate or 'hit back'.

All reports of bullying concerns received from parents/carers will be fully investigated by the designated teacher for child protection and will be responded to within one week of making the complaint. The response will indicate the nature of the investigation which has been carried out and the action being taken.

When responding to a bullying concern, staff will implement interventions aimed at responding to the behaviour, resolving the concern and restoring the wellbeing of those involved. When appropriate, staff may implement sanctions for those displaying bullying behaviour.

A child may suffer or be at risk of suffering from one or more types of abuse and abuse may take place on a single occasion or may occur repeatedly over time.

Staff should be able to observe outward signs of abnormality or change in appearance, behaviour, learning pattern or development. We must always be aware that such symptoms may be due to a variety of other causes, including bereavement or disruption in family circumstances, or drug, alcohol or substance abuse or for other reasons. Extreme care must be exercised and while abnormalities must be recorded and referred to the designated teacher complete confidentiality must be observed. No member of staff may discuss possible cases of abuse outside the school. Students and voluntary helpers will not be made aware of information regarding an individual child, unless the child discloses the information to them initially.

Specific Types of Abuse

Grooming

Grooming of a child or young person is always abusive and/or exploitative. It often involves perpetrator(s) gaining the trust of the child or young person or, in some cases, the trust of the family, friends or community, and/or making an emotional connection with the victim in order to facilitate abuse before the abuse begins. Grooming is often associated with CSE can also be a precursor to other forms of abuse. Grooming can be face to face, online or through social media.

Staff will be aware that young children can be involved in grooming and acting under the coercion or influence of adults. Such young children are considered victims of those holding power over them. Staff will be alert to signs that may indicate grooming and will take early action.

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

CSE is a form of sexual abuse where children are sexually exploited for money, power or status. It can involve violent, humiliating and degrading sexual assaults. In some cases, young people are persuaded or forced into exchanging sexual activity for money, drugs, gifts, affection or status. Consent cannot be given, even where a child may believe they are voluntarily engaging in sexual activity with the person who is exploiting them. CSE does not always involve physical contact and can happen online. A significant number of children who are victims of sexual exploitation go missing from home, care and education at some point. Possible indicators of this type of abuse include; acquisition of money, clothes; going missing change of mood - agitation/being stressed; appearing distraught, having inappropriate sexualized behavior for age; physical symptoms e.g. bruising; bite marks; having inappropriate conversations and self-harm

Any staff member suspecting CSE occurring in school will follow the school child protection policy and procedures.

Domestic Abuse and Violence

Domestic Abuse and Violence is threatening, controlling, coercive behaviour, violence or abuse (psychological, physical, verbal, sexual, financial or emotional) inflicted on anyone (irrespective of age, ethnicity, religion, gender or sexual orientation) by a current or former intimate partner or family member. All members of staff will be required to protect all children in the setting and to support family members. Domestic Abuse is always a child protection issue and will result in a referral.

Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Helpline - **08088021414**

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

Female Genital Mutilation is a form of child abuse and violence against women and girls. FGM involves procedures that include the partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons. The procedure is also referred to as 'cutting', 'female circumcision' and 'initiation'. The practice is medically unnecessary, extremely painful and has serious health consequences, both at the time when the mutilation is carried out and in later life.

Staff have a responsibility to report cases or suspicions of FGM to the designated or deputy designated teacher.

Online Safety

Young children today have an extensive knowledge of technologies. This therefore leaves no doubt over the importance of online safety. Circular 2016/27 will be followed.

- The school has a crucial role in raising awareness of the risks, highlighting the impact of behaviour when engaging with online technologies and educating our pupils about how to act appropriately and stay safe.
- We aim through our Personal and Social Education Programme and Emotional Well Being Programme to teach our children how to act responsibly and keep themselves safe in a digital world.
- "An exploration of e-safety messages to young people, parents and practitioners in Northern Ireland" (SBNI, January 2014) pointed to a number associated risks:
 - These risks have been defined under four categories:
 - Content risk:** The child is exposed to harmful material
 - Contact risk:** The child participates in adult-initiated online activity and/or is at risk of grooming
 - Conduct risks:** The child is a perpetrator or subject to bullying behaviour in peer-to-peer exchange and/or is at risk of bullying, entrapment and/or blackmail.
 - Commercial risks:** The child is exposed to inappropriate commercial advertising, marketing schemes or hidden costs/fraud.

We try to ensure that our children have some understanding (given their age) of online safety issues. Guidance is included in letters to parents/carers throughout the school year as appropriate.

- Staff clearly understand that they should report concerns about online safety immediately following the safeguarding advice they have been given.

Children with Increased Vulnerabilities

Children with a disability in the nursery may be more vulnerable to abuse. Communication difficulties can make disclosure more difficult. Also children with limited fluency in English and preschool children can also find it difficult to express themselves.

Procedures for reporting suspected (or disclosed) child abuse

Communication with parents is welcome at all times.

If a parent/carer has concerns regarding the safety of their (or another) child, they should follow the procedures set out below:

- Contact class teacher or principal.
- Parent's query/concern will be acknowledged within 48 hours.
- Appointments (wherever necessary) will be arranged with the school class teacher and/or principal to discuss parental concerns.
- Follow up appointments will be made to resolve any outstanding issues.
- If I am still concerned, I can talk/write to Mr Raymond Flanagan Chairman of the Board of Governors.

How a parent can make a complaint about possible child abuse.

I have a concern about my / a child's safety



I can talk to the class teacher



If I am still concerned, I can talk to the Designated/Deputy Designated teacher for child protection



If I am still concerned, I can talk/write to Mr Raymond Flanagan Chairman of the Board of Governors.



If I am still concerned, I can contact the NI Public Services Ombudsman **0800 343424**



At any time I can talk to a social worker at the Gateway Team (02894424459) or the Police (02890259299)

Procedure for Reporting Suspected or Disclosed Child Abuse

The designated teacher for Child Protection is Mrs Maguire, Principal.

In her absence Mrs Goss/Miss Lambert assistant teacher will assume responsibility for Child Protection matters.

In the event of both members of teaching staff being absent and substitute teaching staff providing cover, it will be the responsibility of the senior nursery assistant (Mrs Owens) to contact the Chairman of the Board of Governors with any concern that may arise.

(1) Detection:

If a child makes a disclosure to a teacher or other member of staff which gives rise to concerns about possible abuse, or if a member of staff has concerns about a child, **the member of staff must act promptly.**

(2) Referral to Designated Teacher (DT)

The staff member will not investigate - this is a matter for social services or the PSNI - but will report these concerns immediately to the DT, discuss the matter with her, make full notes (signing and dating them), and hand the Note of Concern to the DT.

The Designated Teacher will, as a matter of urgency, plan a course of action, and ensure that a written record is made, signed and filed. The Designated Teacher will then decide whether, in the best interests of the child, the matter needs to be referred to Social Services or the PSNI. Advice may be sought from the Child Protection Support Service for Schools (CPSSS) at the Education Authority (EA).

If there are concerns that the child may be at risk, the school is obliged to make a referral.

Unless there are concerns that a parent/carer may be the possible abuser, the parent/carer will be informed immediately. The Principal may seek clarification or advice by consulting one of the Designated Officers for Child Protection at CPSSS or the Senior Social Worker before a referral is made. No decision to refer a case to Social Services will be made without the fullest consideration and on appropriate advice. The safety of the child is always the first priority.

Where there are concerns about possible abuse, the Principal will inform:

- The Social Services
- And/ or the PSNI
- The Education Authority's Designated Officer for Child Protection at CPSSS

Disclosures made, relevant information received, or concerns identified will be recorded on the *Note of Concern* form, which all staff have access to. This form will be completed

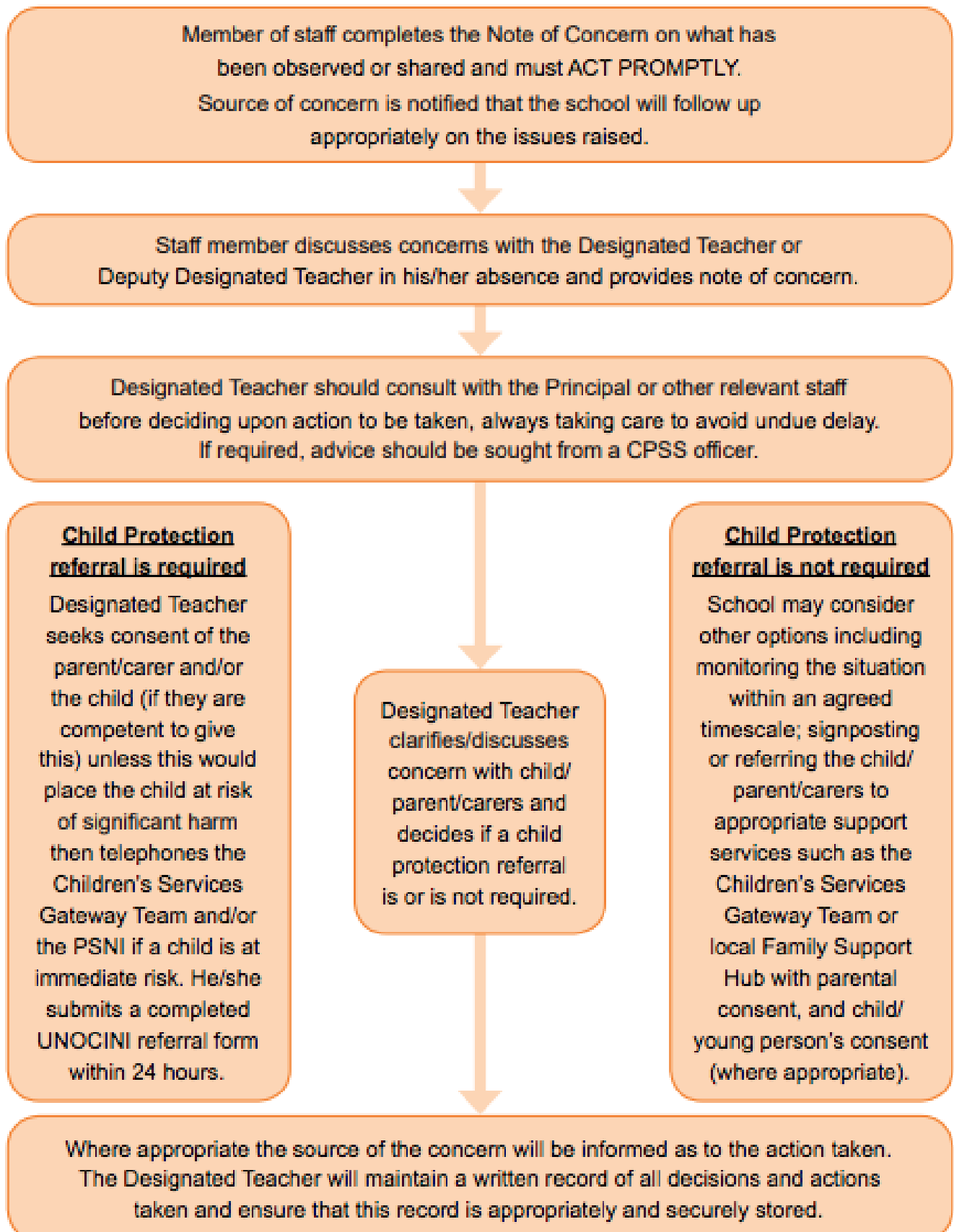
and signed by the staff member to whom the disclosure was made and also signed by the Designated/ Deputy Designated teacher for Child Protection. Once signed, the form will be placed on the pupil's Child Protection Folder.

Where appropriate a UNOCINI will be forwarded to the Gateway Team of Social Services within 24 hours of making a verbal Child Protection referral.

The consent of the parent/carers and/or the young person (if they are competent to give this) must normally be given prior to a referral. An exception can be made if it is considered that a child is in need of immediate safeguarding and that to try and gain consent may increase the risk to the child. Issues of consent (including when consent is not forthcoming) must always be clearly recorded and kept on file.

Processes for Referral

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



Complaints against staff

In line with the guidance in Circular 2015/3 "Dealing with Allegations of Abuse against a Member of Staff", all concerns must be taken seriously and every effort to maintain confidentiality must be made. The allegation details must not be made known to other staff or pupils.

If a complaint about possible child abuse is made against a member of staff, the Principal/Designated Teacher (Mrs Maguire) must be informed immediately. The Principal will take on the role of Lead Individual to manage the handling of the allegation. The Chairman of the Board of Governors and the Safeguarding Team (Mr Raymond Flanagan) will be informed immediately.

If there is a complaint against the Principal/Designated Teacher, it should be made known to the Chairman of the Board of Governors who will ensure that the necessary action is taken and will inform the Safeguarding Team. The Chairperson will take on the role of Lead Individual to manage the handling of the allegation.

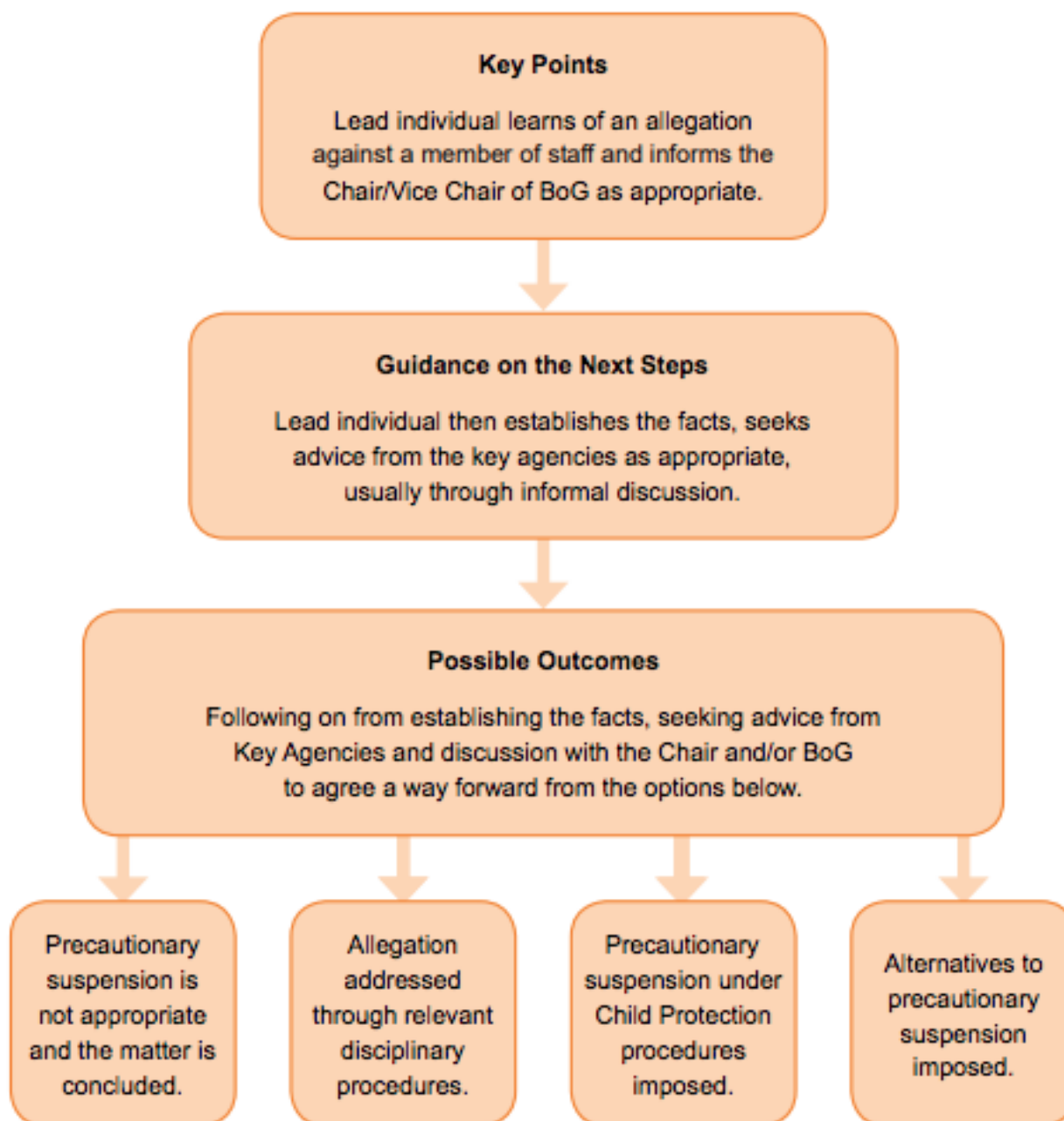
The Lead Individual must determine the facts of the allegation, but it is the role of Social Services/ PSNI to conduct any investigations. The Lead Individual should seek advice and views from other key agencies including:

- The Chairman (if not the Lead Individual)
- The Designated/Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection
- Child Protection Support Service for Schools (CPSSS)
- Employing Authority
- Social Services
- PSNI

Following full review of the facts and discussion between the key agencies, appropriate action must be determined. If deemed necessary, the complaint will be referred to Social Services/ PSNI for investigation and the member of staff will be removed from duties involving direct contact with pupils. In accordance with agreed disciplinary procedures, an imposed precautionary suspension may be invoked by the Board of Governors, but this will be in conjunction with the information shared by the Lead Individual and on the advice of the Education Authority. Principals and Boards of Governors have a duty of care for the welfare of pupils and any allegation needs to be effectively evaluated and managed. However, as employers, they also have a duty of care to their staff and should ensure they provide effective support for anyone facing an allegation of abuse.

Records of the allegation will be signed and dated by the Principal. If the Principal is the subject of the concern, the allegation records will be signed by the Lead Individual. All records are retained in the school, on both the child's Child Protection Folder and in the file of the member of staff concerned.

Procedure where a complaint has been made about possible abuse by a member of the school's staff.



Confidentiality

It should be noted that any information given to members of staff about possible child abuse cannot be held "in confidence". In the interests of the child, staff may need to share this information with other professionals. The person making a complaint or giving information will be advised as soon as possible by the Principal (or if the complaint is against the Principal then the Chairman) about whether or not the complaint has been referred to an investigating agency. All allegations are recorded in the Record of Child Abuse Complaints Book which is securely retained and is reviewed annually by the Board of Governors.

Partnership with Parents

It is essential to foster trust and good relationships with parents in the Nursery School. Parents will be reminded in the Annual Report and in other communications of certain key elements affecting our Pastoral Care Policy.

These may include:

- Reminders that parents inform teachers of changes in personnel collecting children from school.
- Teachers and parents informing each other if their child seems withdrawn, worried, ill or has other related problems
- Parents will give written permission at the time of enrolment, regarding the use of images of their child within the school context.
- Parents are made aware of the behaviour management strategies and anti-bullying procedures used within the school and a contract is signed.
- Letters with *Guidance and Procedures for School Trips/Residentials* will be sent to every parent.
- Current guidelines regarding vetting procedures will be followed in relation to parents and adults accompanying children on School Trips/Residentials
- Visits from nurses, police and other caring professionals.
- Parents are encouraged to communicate to the teachers any worries they have about their child's welfare, if the child is withdrawn or worried about something.

Parents and Child Protection

Parents will be informed about the schools Child Protection Policy at the induction meeting and that a copy of the policy is available to parents on request.

A summary will be distributed annually. Advice will be given on procedures for reporting child abuse and a synopsis of the policy will be included in the school prospectus.

Parents are asked to supply the school with the names of all persons who have permission to collect their child from school. They are asked to inform the school of any change in this routine.

Parents are asked to brief school about arrangements following any separation or divorce. Members of staff need to be aware of legal responsibilities, agreed access or

exclusion and any involvement of Social Services. Such information will be requested formally each September, but parents are encouraged to keep the school informed as necessary.

Parents will be made aware that on occasions staff may have to change pupil's clothes when administering first aid, after toilet accidents and on other such occasions. The school's Intimate Care Policy applies.

In the event of a parent making a complaint about a member of staff, volunteer or student, the school's complaints procedure will be followed and the complaint addressed directly to the principal. If the complaint is against the principal it will be addressed to the chairman of the governors. If a complaint includes a disclosure relating to another child, the accused child's parents will be informed. Discipline must remain solely in the hands of the staff.

Code of Conduct

The code of conduct is known to all staff - permanent, non-permanent and volunteers. It reflects the safeguarding ethos of the school.

Intimate Care Policy

Refer to Intimate Care Policy.

Guidance for Volunteers

Criminal record checks will be completed when appropriate by Access NI. Current guidelines regarding vetting procedures will be followed in relation to volunteers working in the school.

Reasonable Force / Physical Restraint

Our policy on physical restraint by staff is set out in a separate policy, "Reasonable Force and Safe Handling", in accordance with guidelines from EA (NE Region). It acknowledges that staff must only use physical intervention as a last resort, and that at all times it must be the minimal force necessary to prevent injury.

Photography and Images of Children

All parents are asked at the start of the academic year to consent to their child's photographs being taken for school use, being displayed within the school, occasionally in newspapers or on the school website.

A list of any children who MAY NOT have photographs taken or displayed will be clearly sited for all staff to check.

Educational Trips/ Residentials / Visits

Saint Joseph's Nursery School has a separate policy on Trips, Residentials and Educational Visits, as in accordance with EA Educational Visit, Guidance for Schools (2017).

Fostering Equal Opportunities

All children will be helped to recognize that there are many different ways of seeing and understanding in the world. Children's self-image will be enhanced when their cultural beliefs, gender, heritage and the lifestyle of their families are respected, acknowledged and used in the planning of educational experiences and activities. Their learning experiences will also be enriched. All children will be encouraged to have equal opportunity to participate fully in play with a wide variety of tools and equipment.

Health and Safety

Our Health and Safety Policy, set out in a separate document, reflects the consideration we give to the protection of our children both within the school environment and when away from the school when undertaking school trips, visits and residential.

Health and Safety - Injury

When a child is sick or injured, the school will make every effort to contact the parent. If, in the opinion of a teacher, a child needs hospital treatment urgently, an ambulance will be called and a member of staff will accompany the child to hospital. The staff remaining in school will ensure that the parent and/or other emergency contact person is notified as soon as possible and goes directly to the hospital. In all cases it will be school policy to act in the best interests of the child.

Administering Medicines

As a general rule, our staff are not advised to administer any medicines to children during the day. However, in some cases to prevent a child's exclusion and when specific directions have been given by the child's GP and parent, medicine will be administered during the school day by the class teacher and nursery assistant/s (when appropriate). The child's parent will be asked to complete and sign documentation detailing the dosage and frequency and reason for medication. (See Administering of Medicines Form)

Children who need to use asthma inhalers are supported by staff following completion of the administering of Medicines Form.

Positive Behaviour in the nursery

Our Positive Behaviour Policy is set out in a separate document. It is the policy of St. Joseph's Nursery School to ensure that pupils are given a secure, well ordered school environment which will allow for their spiritual, social, emotional, physical and intellectual growth. The school relies on good relationships between teachers, pupils and the whole school community.

Rules, routines and positive behaviour management procedures in the school are necessary for the safety, well-being and enjoyment of others.

Related Schools Policies

Other school policies that outline the school's approach to related areas of safeguarding children include:

- Positive behaviour policy
- Anti-Bullying
- Pastoral Care
- Intimate Care
- Safe Handling - Physical Intervention - Reasonable Force
- Special Educational Needs
- Health and Safety
- Online safety
- Educational Visits
- Attendance
- Guidance for Volunteers
- Photography
- Staff Code of Conduct

Further information: The Department of Health document: 'Co-Operating to Safeguard Children and Young People in Northern Ireland'

www.health-ni.gov.uk/publications/cooperating-safeguard-children-and-youngpeople-northern-ireland

Designated Teacher and other Contacts:

Designated teacher:	Mrs A Maguire Tel: 02894-462437
Deputy designated teacher/s:	Mrs R Goss / Miss C Lambert Tel: 02894-462437
Chairman of the Board of Governors:	Mr R Flanagan Tel: 02894-464878
CCMS Designated officer:	Miss M Cooper Tel: 02890 327875 Fax: 02890 327866
EA (NE Region) Support Service:	Antrim Board Centre on 028 94482223.

EA - Heather Grimason (Full-time) - heather.grimason@eani.org.uk

Adam McKeown (Full-time covering sickness absence) - adam.mckeown@eani.org.uk
Colleen Ellison (Mon -Wed) - colleen.ellison@eani.org.uk
Paula McCreesh (Thurs- Fri) - paula.mccreesh@eani.org.uk

Margaret Brady (margaret.brady@eani.org.uk) - CPSSS Mon-Fri from 9.00am - 5.00pm
on **02895985590**.

Education Welfare: Tel: 02825662563

CONTACTS AND HELPLINES

NSPCC Child Protection Helpline
24 hours call free 0800 800500

NSPCC
Jennymount Court
North Derby Street
BELFAST BT15 3HN

NI CHILDLINE
PO Box 1111
BELFAST BT1 7DZ
Tel: 01232 327773

Contact Youth Counselling Services
First Floor, Lanyon Building,
10 N Derby St,
BELFAST BT15 3HL
Tel: 02890744499
Helpline: 'Youthline': 02890457848

Child Care (NI)
216 Belmont Road
BELFAST BT4 2AT
Tel: 02890 652713

Children's Law Centre
2nd Floor, Philip House
127-131 Ormeau Road
BELFAST BT7 1SH
Tel: 02890 245704
Advice Line: 02890 434242

Youthnet
14 College Sq North
BELFAST BT1 6AS
Tel: 02890 331880

Barnardos
Childcare Office
542-544 Upper Newtownards Road
BELFAST BT4 3HE
Tel: 02890 672366
Fax: 02890 672399

Save the Children
Popper House
15 Richmond Park
BELFAST BT10 OHB
Tel: 02890 431123
Fax: 02890 431314

Kidscape
info@kidscape.org.uk

PSNI CARE UNIT

Ballymena CARE Unit
 Ballymena RUC Station
 26 Galgorm Road
 BALLYMENA BT43 5EY
 Tel: 02825 653355

Health and Social Services

Homefirst Health and Social Services Trust
 Braid Valley Hospital Site
 BALLYMENA
 BT43 6HL
 Tel: 02825-635640; Antrim - 02894 416555

Contact in Northern Board Area Child Protection Committee

Mrs MB Wilmont

Chairperson of ACPC

NHSSB

Director of Social Services

02825-662218/20

Safeguarding and Child Protection

This guidance should be read in conjunction with:

- ❖ Safeguarding and Child Protection in Schools. A Guide for Schools (Updated Sept 2019)
- ❖ Safeguarding and Child Protection in Schools. A Guide for Schools (2017)
- ❖ The Department of Health's 'Co-operating to Safeguard Children and Young People in Northern Ireland' (August 2017) at: www.health-ni.gov.uk/publications/co-operating-safeguard-children-and-young-people-northern-ireland
- ❖ The Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland's (SBNI) Policies and Procedures which can be found on the SBNI website at: www.safeguardingni.org/resources
- ❖ The Education Authority (EA) Safeguarding site also provides useful information on all aspects of safeguarding and child protection: www.eani.org.uk/schools/safeguarding-and-child-protection/
- ❖ The Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 2003
- ❖ Sexual Offences (Northern Ireland) Order 2008
- ❖ Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups (Northern Ireland) Order 2007
- ❖ The Safeguarding Board (Northern Ireland) Act 2011
- ❖ The Public Services Ombudsman Act (NI) 2016
- ❖ The Addressing Bullying in Schools Act (NI) 2016
- ❖ The Stopping Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse Strategy
- ❖ Adult Safeguarding: Prevention and Prevention in Partnership

Monitoring and evaluation

This policy will be reviewed and monitored annually in line with the school's policy review schedule.