

# ST BRIGID'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Safeguarding/ Child Protection

### Policy

### Addendum

### Covid-19



Learning and Growing Together

Reviewed with Staff- September 2020

Ratified by Governors- October 2020

Signed by Chair of Governors

### **Safeguarding/ Child Protection Policy**

Despite the changes, within school due to Covid 19 the school's Child Protection Policy is fundamentally the same: children and young people always come first, staff should respond robustly to safeguarding concerns and contact the DT in line with our established safeguarding procedure.

### **Changes in Personnel**

The school arrangements continue in line with our Child Protection Policy.

The Designated Teacher (DT) is: Mrs A Lloyd

The Deputy Designated Teacher (DDT) is: Mrs L Devlin

Staff will continue to follow the Child Protection procedure and advise the DT or DDT immediately about concerns they have about any child, whether in school or not. COVID-19 means a need for increased vigilance due to the pressures on services, families and young people, rather than a reduction in our standards.

During Lockdown many families were assisted by the school or local community and this will continue for as long as required. We will continue to work closely with outside agencies regarding any child who may have experienced trauma during lockdown ie Barnardos, Family Support Hub and Educational Psychology.

The pressures on children and their families at this time are significant. There will be heightened awareness of family pressures through being contained in a small area, poverty, and financial or health anxiety. We recognise the impact of online learning also on families. This may lead to an increased rate of disclosures. Staff will be aware of the mental health of both children and their parents and carers, informing the DT about any concerns.

All staff have received up to date child protection training and staff have received nurture training. Emphasis within classes will be on a recovery curriculum focussing on nurture, PDMU and PATHS to support children's health, social, emotional and mental well-being.

With a need to self-isolate when in close contact with a positive case of Covid or when displaying symptoms, it is inevitable that there will be new staff and volunteers within school. However, as our policy states, new starters must have an induction before starting or on their first morning with the DT or DDT. They must read the school child protection policy, the behaviour policy, the whistleblowing policy and the code of conduct. The DT or DDT will ensure new recruits know who to contact if worried about a child and ensure the new starters are familiar with the child protection procedure.