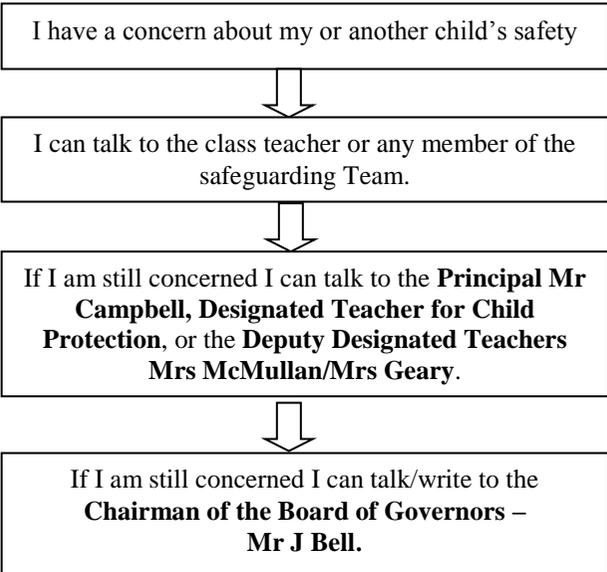


What you should do if you have concerns about a child:



What we, as a school, will do if we have concerns about a child in our care:

- In most situations we will discuss concerns with parents, where it is in the child's best interests.
- If concerns persist consult with the EA Southern Region CPSS
- Follow advice from EA Southern Region CPSS, which may involve referral to Social Services.

Designated Teachers for Child Protection



Designated Child Protection Teacher



**Deputy Designated Child Protection Teachers
Mrs McMullan & Mrs Geary**

This is a brief summary of our Child Protection Policy the full Policy is available for download from our website or a hard copy is available on request from the school office.

**Keith Campbell
Principal
Drumhillery Primary School
58 Drumhillery Road
Middletown
Co Armagh
BT60 3DJ**

**Tel/Fax: (028) 3756 8725
email: kcampbell566@c2kni.net**

Drumhillery Primary School



Information For Parents On Child Protection Policy



It is our policy always to act in the best interests of the children in our care. A major part of this will be to safeguard their welfare by endeavouring to protect them from neglect and physical, sexual and emotional harm.

Revised: October 2017

Dear Parent,

In this leaflet we have summarised the main parts of our policy document on Child Protection to acquaint parents with the procedures which have been put in place to ensure that the welfare of your children is a vital part of our school life.

We strive constantly to create an atmosphere in which all children are valued through feeling confident and secure. To achieve this we have developed a number of policies and teaching materials.

We operate “an open door policy” at all times and your support in these matters in the past has been greatly appreciated. Any information shared with members of staff will be dealt with promptly, sensitively and confidentially.

Our Safeguarding Team

Chair of Governors

Mr J Bell

Designated Governor for Child Protection

Mrs L Nesbitt

Designated Teacher

Principal

Mr K Campbell

Deputy Designated Teachers

Mrs L McMullan/ Mrs G Geary

Principles:

- Children have a right to be listened to and to be taken seriously.
- In any matter the welfare of the child must always be paramount. This overrides all other considerations.
- A proper balance must be struck between protecting the child and respecting the rights and needs of parents and families; but where there is conflict the child’s interests must always come first.

Aims

- To maintain procedures in the school to deal with suspected cases of child abuse as directed by EA Southern Region Circular
- To continue staff awareness of the referral procedure within the school.
- To make parents aware of the procedures set up in school to deal with suspected cases of child abuse.

Code of Conduct for All Staff within the School

Staff must always be mindful that they hold a position of trust and that their behaviour towards the children in their care must be appropriate.

Child Abuse Is Defined As Follows

Neglect: The failure of a parent or carer to protect the child from any kind of danger, including cold, lack of supervision and starvation.

Physical Abuse: The failure to prevent physical injury or causing actual physical injury to a child.

Sexual Abuse: Actual or likely sexual exploitation of a child.

Emotional abuse: Emotional rejection or ill treatment of a child.

Exploitation: The intentional ill-treatment, manipulation or abuse of power and control or taking unfair advantage of a child or young person or situation for personal gain. It does not always involve physical contact, it can also occur through the use of technology.

Children living in homes where there is **domestic abuse** are at significant risk of harm and such cases should be reported.

Role of members of staff

- Listen to the information given
- Reassure the child that they will be helped and supported.
- Staff will record notes of the disclosure.
- Explain that the information may need to be passed on to the Designated teacher Mr Campbell.
- Referral will be made to Mr Campbell the Designated Teacher or other Designated teachers as soon as possible. He may inform EA CPSS and Social Services.