



"Great Oaks from Little Acorns Grow."

**Derryhale
Primary School**

Child Protection Summary Flyer



www.derryhaleps.co.uk

Child Protection and Safeguarding in Derryhale

At Derryhale Primary School we have a strong Christian ethos and believe that the safety, welfare and personal development of everyone in our school community is of paramount importance. We aim to provide an environment in which fairness, respect, tolerance, compassion and forgiveness permeate all relationships.

Our aim in Derryhale can be summed up in the words of our motto:

"Great Oaks from Little Acorns Grow"

In order to achieve this growth, we aim to provide a caring, nurturing and welcoming school where each pupil feels valued, supported and happy.

Operation Encompass School

Derryhale P.S. is an Operation Encompass school. Operation Encompass is an early intervention partnership between local Police and our school, aimed at supporting children.



As an Operation Encompass school, when the police have attended a domestic incident and one of our pupils is present, they will contact school at the earliest opportunity to share this information with a member of the school safeguarding team. Any member of staff answering the phone at school will immediately pass the call on to a member of the **Safeguarding Team** (see poster).

The Role of Class Teachers in our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

Class teachers must refer concerns or disclosures initially to the Designated Teacher for Child Protection or to the Deputy Designated Teacher if she is not available. Staff will use the *Note of Concern* provided, as a written and signed account of any concerns / disclosures. Staff are reminded not to investigate, but to record and refer on to the Safeguarding Team.

In addition to this, class teachers should complete the *Note of Concern* if there are safeguarding concerns including poor attendance and punctuality, poor presentation, changed or unusual behaviour including self-harm and suicidal thoughts, deterioration in educational progress, discussions with parents about concerns relating to their child, concerns about pupil abuse or serious bullying and concerns about home circumstances including disclosures of domestic abuse.

Class teachers should not give children a guarantee of total confidentiality regarding their disclosures (e.g. keeping secrets), should not investigate nor should they ask leading questions.

The Role of Support Staff in our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

If any member of support staff has concerns about a child or a staff member they should report these concerns to the Designated Teacher or Deputy Designated Teacher if she is not available. A factual written record of the concerns should be made on the *Note of Concern* provided and any further necessary action will be taken by the Safeguarding Team. Remember, do not investigate. (*Note of Concerns* are available from a member of the Safeguarding Team or any class teacher.)

Types of Abuse

Harm from abuse is not always easily identifiable and a child or young person may experience more than one type of harm. This flyer provides a summary of different types of abuse. (Further detail including signs and symptoms are outlined in our **Child Protection Policy** which you can access at any time by asking a member of the Safeguarding Team.)

Types of abuse include:

- **Physical abuse** – is deliberately hurting a child. It might take a variety of forms, including hitting, biting, pinching, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning, scalding, drowning or suffocating a child.
- **Emotional abuse** – is the persistent emotional ill treatment of a child. Sometimes referred to as psychological abuse, 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, unloved or inadequate. It may include not giving a child an opportunity to express their own 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.
- **Sexual abuse** – occurs when others use and exploit children sexually for their own gratification or gain the gratification of others. Sexual abuse may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration or non-penetrative acts. It may include noncontact activities such as involving children in the making 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). Both a men and women commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children.
- **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 and / or development.
- **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, engaging in criminal activity, begging, benefit or other financial fraud or child-trafficking.
- **Domestic abuse** – is often described as "the intentional and persistent physical or emotional abuse of a woman or woman and her children in a way that causes pain, distress or distress or injury" (Women's Aid). We recognise that the perpetrator may also be female and the victim male.
- **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 to facilitate abuse before the abuse begins.
- **Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)** – is a form of child abuse and violence against women and girls. It is a criminal offence in Northern Ireland.
- **Forced marriage** – is a marriage conducted without the valid consent of one or both parties and where duress is a factor. It is a criminal offence in Northern Ireland.
- **E-Safety / Internet abuse** – internet abuse can refer to content risks such as the child being exposed to harmful material, the child participating in adult initiated online activity, the child being a perpetrator or victim in peer-to-peer exchange or the child being exposed to inappropriate commercial marketing schemes and hidden costs. E-safety means acting and staying safe when using digital technologies. Children are encouraged to be S.M.A.R.T. online.

Code of Conduct for All Staff

All actions concerning children and young people must uphold the best interests of the young person as a primary consideration. Staff must always be mindful of the fact that they hold a position of trust and that their behaviour towards the child and young people in their charge must be above reproach. All members of staff must comply with the school's Code of Conduct for Employees and Volunteers which has been approved by the Board of Governors. (The school's **Code of Conduct Policy** is available on request.)

Our Safeguarding Team

Designated Teacher =
Mrs M. McCallen

Deputy Designated Teacher / Principal =
Mr A. Glenny

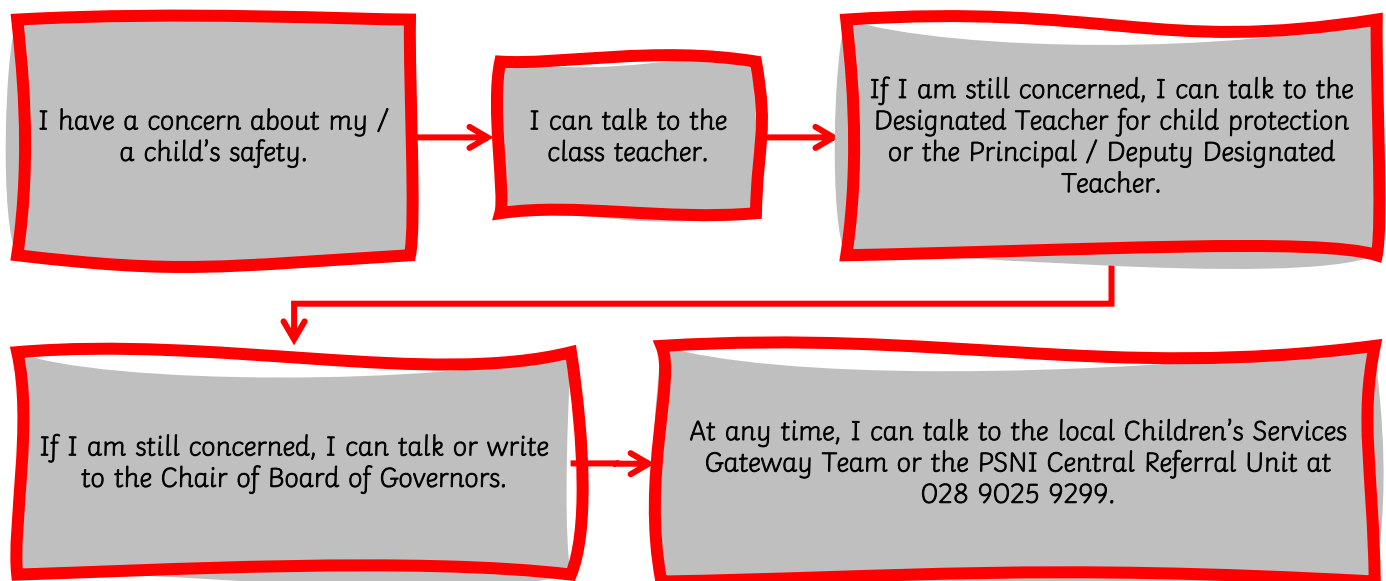
Designated Governor =
Rev C. Baxter

Chair of BoG =
Mr G. Wilson



Concerns

The flowchart below outlines the steps to take if you have a safeguarding concern about your child or other children. ↓



[Please note: This Child Protection Summary Flyer is reviewed annually by the Safeguarding Team and ratified by the Board of Governors. Any information contained within it is accurate as of September 2026.]