

Child Protection Procedures How a parent can raise a concern

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
Mrs Fiona Fearon
(Designated Teacher for Child Protection)
or
Mrs Michelle Kelly
(Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection)
or
Mrs Wendy McKeown
(School Principal)

If I am still concerned, I can talk/write to the
Chair of the Board of Governors,
Mr Adrian Gray

At any time, I can talk to a Social Worker from
the Southern Health & Social Care Trust,
Children's Services Gateway Team
Tel: 028 3756 7100 Mon-Fri 9am-4.30pm
or
the PSNI Central Referral Unit
Tel : 028 9025 9299

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

Procedures followed by the Safeguarding Team

If we have concerns about the welfare of your child, what are we required to do?

- In most cases we will ask to meet you first to discuss our concerns.
- If the issue is not resolved at this meeting, we must consult with the appropriate agency.
- If they advise us to make a referral to Social Services/PSNI we must follow that advice.
- We will endeavor at all times to keep you informed.
- Where a child is deemed to be at immediate risk of significant harm, these steps may not be possible.

For further details of the procedures followed where the school has concerns or has been given information about possible abuse by someone other than a member of staff, please see Appendix 3 of our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy on the school website.

Safeguarding and Child Protection Information for Parents

2022-2023

Dromintee Primary School



8 Ballynamadda Road
Killeavy
Newry
BT35 8TD

Tel: 028 30888383

<http://www.dromintees.com>

Safeguarding and Child Protection at Dromintee Primary School

We in Dromintee PS 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 draw on the support of our parents and local community to encourage the children at our school to become, confident, respectful, caring, loving, conscientious, well-rounded individuals. Both governors and staff are mindful of their responsibilities and work tirelessly for the greater good of the children in our care.

Our Aim

We aim to protect our pupils by ensuring that all those who work in our school have clear guidance on the detection of and inter-agency management of situations, where possible abuse or neglect of a child is suspected.

The overall concern of all caring adults must be the care, welfare and safety of the child. The welfare of each child in our school is our paramount consideration.

The general principles which underpin our work, are those set out in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and are enshrined in the Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995, the Department of Education (Northern Ireland) guidance 'Safeguarding and Child Protection – A Guide for Schools' (DENI Circular 2017/04, updated 02/09/19) and the 'Co-operating to Safeguard Children and Young People in Northern Ireland' (August 2017).



Our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

The following principles form the basis of our Child Protection Policy in Dromintee Primary School.

- It is a child's right to feel safe at all times, to be heard, listened to and taken seriously.
- We have a pastoral responsibility towards the children in our care and should take all reasonable steps, to ensure their welfare is safeguarded and their safety is preserved.
- In any incident the child's welfare must be paramount, this overrides all other considerations.
- A proper balance must be struck between protecting children and respecting the rights and needs of parents and families; but where there is conflict the child's interest must always come first.

School Safeguarding Team Members

- Designated Teacher- **Mrs Fiona Fearon**
- Deputy Designated Teacher- **Mrs Michelle Kelly**
- Principal - **Mrs Wendy McKeown**
- Designated Governor for Child Protection- **Mrs Lisa McCrink**
- Chair of the Board of Governors- **Mr Adrian Gray**