

Procedures for Reporting Suspected (or Disclosed) Child Abuse

If, at any time, a child makes a disclosure to a member of staff that gives rise to concerns about possible abuse, or if a member of staff has concerns about a child, the member of staff will act immediately and the following process will be applied.

- ✓ He/she will speak to Mrs Graham (Designated Teacher) or Mrs Myers (Deputy Designated Teacher)
- ✓ Mrs Graham or Mrs Myers will discuss any concerns with Mr Manning and the Child Protection Panel will be informed.
- ✓ If appropriate, a referral will be made immediately to Social Services.



How a Parent can Express a Concern

I have concerns about my/a child's safety...

I can talk to the Form Tutor/Head of Year or Head of Key Stage or...

If I am still concerned, I can talk to Mrs Graham or Mrs Myers or...

If I am still concerned, I can talk to Mr Manning or...

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





strathearn school

Safeguarding & Child Protection

a guide for parents

A detailed policy document is freely available on request from the school office or at: www.strathearn.org.uk

School Policy

-  we in Strathearn aim to provide a caring, supportive and safe environment
-  it is our responsibility to ensure that all individuals are protected from the risks of possible abuse
-  the problem of child abuse, if it occurs, will not be ignored by anyone in our school
-  all schools are required by law to have a Child Protection Policy and to communicate this to parents

Strathearn School Safeguarding Team 2014-2015





Chairman of Board of Governors:	<i>Mr N McKeown</i>
Designated Governor for Child Protection:	<i>Mrs P Stewart</i>
Principal:	<i>Mr D Manning</i>
Designated Teacher:	<i>Mrs H Graham</i>
Deputy Designated Teachers:	<i>Mrs L Myers, Mr D Manning</i>

If you suspect a pupil might be at risk and in the absence of the DT or DDTs or any other member of staff from whom you could take advice, please contact: Belfast Gateway Service - Emergency 'Out of Hours' number to ask for advice is: **028 9056 5444**



What is Child Abuse?

ABUSE can take any of the following forms:

-  **Neglect:** the persistent or significant neglect of a child, or the failure to protect a child from exposure to any kind of danger, including cold or starvation, or persistent failure to carry out important aspects of care, resulting in the significant impairment of the child's health or development.
-  **Physical:** physical injury to a child, whether deliberately inflicted or knowingly not prevented.
-  **Sexual:** the sexual exploitation of a child or young person for an adult's or another young person's own sexual gratification; the involvement of children or young people in sexual activities of any kind (including exposure to pornography) which they do not understand, to which they are unable to give informed consent or that violate normal family roles.
-  **Emotional:** persistent or significant emotional ill-treatment or rejection, resulting in severe adverse effects on the emotional, physical and/or behavioural development of a child.

