

How a Parent Can Raise a Concern or Make a Complaint in Relation to

Child Protection

If a parent has a concern about his or her child or another child's safety, they may take the following action:

I have a concern about my child or another child's safety



*I can talk to the
CLASS TEACHER*



*If I am still concerned, I can talk to
the designated teacher of Child Protection, **Mr F Coyle***



*If I am still concerned, I can talk to the Principal
Mrs P Reid*



*If I am still concerned, I can talk/write to the,
Chairperson of the Board of Governors, **Mrs S Barronwell***



*At any time, I can talk to the Social
Worker at their local Health and Social Services Trust
The local PSNI Care Unit*



Child Protection Policy

*Summary for Parents
(full Policy on website)*

*"With a smile and a helping hand, we inspire the
children of today to become the adults of tomorrow"*



Child Protection Policy – Summary

The Board of Governors, Principal and Management Team take seriously their primary responsibility for the safety and welfare of the children and staff in St. Therese of Lisieux Primary School, as set out in the guidance of DENI and CCMS Child Protection Circulars. Every child has the fundamental right to be safe at school and every parent has the right to expect this from their child's school. St. Therese of Lisieux Primary School will do all in its power to keep children safe.

Aims

- 1. To create a safe and secure environment for all members of the school community.*
- 2. To develop the children's skills in self-protection through an agreed whole school curriculum initiative.*

Objectives

The child protection dimension of the school involves all pupils and all adults. The school will contribute by:

- 1. ensuring pupils have sufficient knowledge about themselves to be able to understand what constitutes appropriate and non-appropriate contact;*
- 2. enabling children to become aware of strategies which they may use to protect themselves from possible abusive situations;*
- 3. developing an on-going programme of personal and social education e.g. NSPCC programmes, Circle Time, PDMU activities;*

- 4. ensuring that all new staff are made aware of Child Protection Procedures on appointment;*
- 5. all staff and regular voluntary helpers will have undergone security clearance by the police;*
- 6. ensuring that designated teachers avail themselves of all opportunities to update their knowledge of child protection procedures;*
- 7. regular in-service training to maintain a working awareness among staff of child protection issues and child protection procedures;*
- 8. ensuring that if a child on the Child Protection Register changes school, this information is passed to the new school and all files destroyed at our school.*

In St Therese of Lisieux PS the designated teacher is Mr F Coyle, Vice Principal, and the deputy designated teacher is Miss P Gargan.

In the case of absence the deputy designated teacher assumes the responsibility of the designated teacher.

Procedures for Parental Concerns

All parental concerns / complaints are taken seriously and dealt with as quickly as is reasonably possible.

While St Therese of Lisieux Primary School operates an open-door policy for urgent parental meetings with the Principal, it may be necessary for parents to make an appointment in order to be allocated a reasonable amount of time for a concern/complaint to be discussed fully.