



## **BALLYORAN NURSERY**

# **Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy**

## **Summary for Parents**

The Staff and Governors of Ballyoran Primary School Nursery Unit have both a primary and a collective responsibility for the welfare and safety of the pupils in our care.

The Vision for the school states ‘As a welcoming Inclusive School we aim to provide a safe, happy, caring and stimulating learning environment which will enable each child to develop to his or her full potential - academically, socially, emotionally, physically and spiritually, in preparation for becoming responsible citizens.’

The link between home and school is of vital importance and teachers value the contribution of parents in supporting and informing them about any relevant aspect of the pupils’ welfare.

A Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy operates in Ballyoran Primary School Nursery Unit. Its aim is to protect our pupils by ensuring that everyone who works in our school has clear guidance on the procedures involved where abuse of a child is suspected. The overriding concern of all caring adults must be the safety of the child and the welfare of our pupils is our paramount consideration. We not only have a moral, but also a legal responsibility to pass on concerns about possible abuse.

**In all their contact with pupils, staff in Ballyoran Primary School Nursery Unit follow the guidelines and procedures described in the DE ‘Safeguarding and Child Protection in Schools – A Guide for Schools’ (2017).**

The following principles form the basis for our Safeguarding and Child Protection procedures:

- 1 Every child has the right to be safe from harm and to have proper care given to their physical, emotional and spiritual well-being;*
- 1 Children should be listened to and taken seriously;*
- 1 In any incident the child’s welfare must always be paramount; this overrides all other considerations.*

**It should be noted that information given to members of staff about possible child abuse cannot be held ‘in confidence’. In the interests of the child, staff may need to share this information with other professionals. However, only those who need to know will be told.**

## Reporting 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 the Nursery Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection – Mrs Mulholland

In the absence of Mrs Mulholland, I can talk to the School Designated Teacher for Child Protection Mrs McGuire or the Deputy Designated Teacher Mrs Heaney or the Principal Mr Woolsey



If I am still concerned, I can talk/write to the Chair of the Board of Governors Mr Fleming, through school



If I am still concerned, I can contact the  
NI Public Services Ombudsman  
0800 343 424



At any time a parent can talk to a Social Worker at  
The local Children's Services Gateway Team  
Tel: 0800 7837745 (Free Phone from a Landline)

Or can contact the PSNI Central Referral Unit  
Tel: 028 90 259299

**In all cases of suspected child abuse, the action that will be taken in Ballyoran Primary School Nursery Unit is that of informing Social Services and the Education Authority. The school will NOT be involved in investigating the suspected abuse.**

This leaflet is intended as a brief summary of the Safeguarding and Child Protection policy and procedures in Ballyoran Primary School Nursery Unit. If you require a full copy of this Policy please visit the school website [www.ballyoranps.com](http://www.ballyoranps.com) (Click on Parents & Safeguarding Children) or contact the school office on 02838352009.