

Aims

Edwards Primary School and Nursery Unit aims to establish a caring environment within which the academic, personal, social and spiritual potential of each child will be developed. The pastoral dimension permeates all school activities.

We have a primary responsibility for the care, welfare and safety of the pupils in our charge and we will carry out this duty through our pastoral care policy which aims to provide a caring, supportive and safe environment.

Principles

Our Child Protection Policy is based on the following Principles:

- The child's welfare must always be paramount.
- Children must always have a right to be heard, to be listened to and to be taken seriously.
- Parents/carers have a right to respect but a proper balance must be struck between ensuring this and protecting children.
- Every child has the fundamental right to be safe from harm and have proper care given to their physical, emotional and spiritual well being.

School Safeguarding Team

Members of the Schools Safeguarding team are:

The Chair of the Board of Governors: Mr Montgomery

The Designated Governors for Child Protection:

Mr Montgomery and Mrs Barclay

The School Principal: Ms Robinson

The Designated Teacher for Child Protection:

Miss Baxter

The Deputy Designated Teachers for Child Protection:

Miss Roke and Mrs Warnock

Members of the team have clear roles and responsibilities in relation to the safeguarding of pupils within the school and these are detailed in our full child protection policy.

Principles

In order to protect our pupils we at Edwards Primary School and Nursery Unit will adhere to the following procedures.

All staff teachers, non-teaching staff and volunteers will have clear guidance on the action which is required where abuse or neglect is suspected.

All staff and volunteers will undergo a vetting procedure in order to maintain the highest standard of professional care towards our children.

All teaching and ancillary staff will attend a Child Protection training programme organised by the Designated Teacher.

Children will be supervised at all times while in the school grounds.

When it is necessary to change the child's normal travel arrangements permission will only be given on receipt of a written request or telephone call by a parent/guardian.

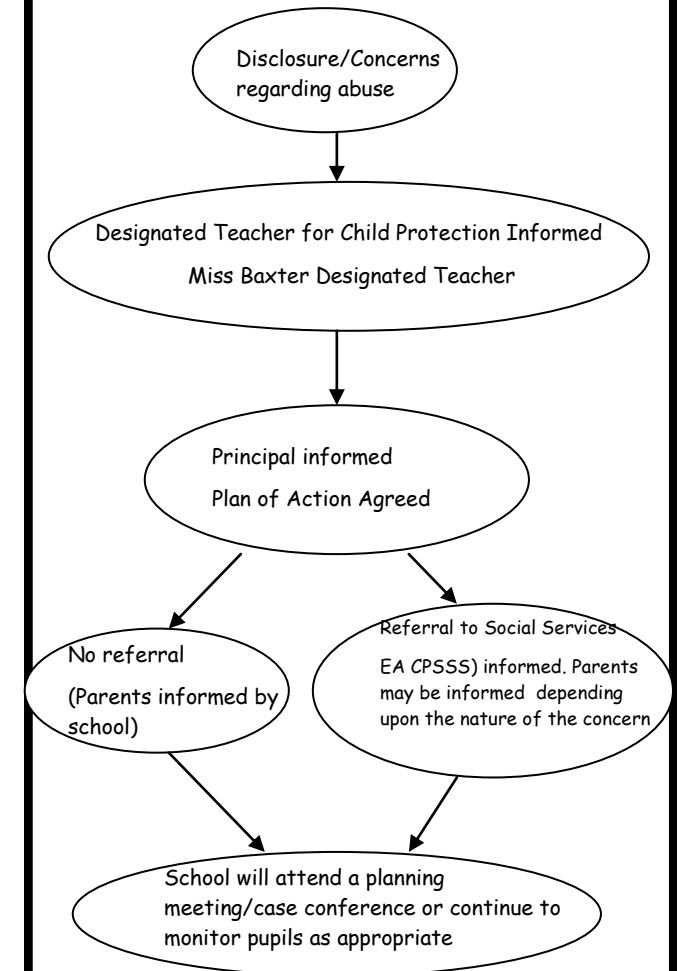
All visitors to the school must report to the Secretary's office.

Bullying is a highly distressing and damaging form of abuse and will be responded to sensitively in our school. All staff will be vigilant at all times and will aim to prevent bullying by raising awareness with pupils, staff and parents about bullying, its forms and consequences

All staff at Edwards Primary School and Nursery Unit will ensure that all children are aware of who they can talk to if they are sad, worried, being bullied or have any other concerns.

The Department of Education of Northern Ireland requires all those working in education to co-operate fully with social services and other agencies to protect children. It is therefore our duty to refer if there is a concern about any form of abuse.

The following diagram shows the procedures we are required to follow and is based upon the procedure described in The Department of Education publication 'Pastoral Care in School – Child Protection (1999)'.



Edwards Primary School and Nursery Unit is committed to the provision of a high quality of education for all pupils and high standards to all whom it serves. We believe that the fostering of trust and good relationships with the Parents/Guardians of our pupils is very important. A close partnership between home and school should help ensure that all our children learn and develop to their full potential in a caring, supportive and safe environment. Good communication is essential if we are to achieve this. If you have any concerns about any aspect of your son/daughter's care/education please contact the school and arrange a meeting with the Principal and/or the class teacher.

We would encourage you attend our Parent/Teacher meetings so that members of staff can keep you informed regarding your child's progress and development.

If you have any concerns about your child's safety you should use the following procedure to make a complaint:

I have a concern about my child's safety.



I can talk to the Teacher



If I am still concerned I can talk to the Designated Teacher for Child Protection (Miss Baxter)



If I am still concerned I can talk to the Principal
(Ms Robinson)



If I am still concerned I can talk to the Deputy Designated Teachers for Child Protection (Miss Roke and Mrs Warnock)



If I am still concerned I can talk/write to the Chairman of the Board of Governors of (Mr Montgomery)

At any time I can talk to the :Social Worker in Gateway team tel: 028 71314090 or the PSNI Public Protection Unit tel: 999 (Emergency) or 101 (Non-Urgent)

This leaflet can only provide a summary of our child protection policy and a more detailed policy is available on request from the school office. Contact details are provided below. This policy summary will be reviewed annually and issued to parents at least once every two years. Should you have any questions to ask or comments to make in relation to the content of this leaflet or the full policy please do not hesitate to contact the

Designated Teacher for Child Protection:-

Miss Baxter

Or Deputy Designated Teachers:-

Ms Robinson, Miss Roke and Mrs Warnock

The following are a list of other related pastoral care policies which are also available from the school.

- Behaviour Policy
- Anti-Bullying
- Use of Reasonable Force/Safe Handling
- Special Educational Needs
- Educational Visits
- First Aid and the Administration of Medicines
- Health and Safety Policy
- Use of Mobile Phones/Cameras
- ICT and access to the internet
- Intimate Care
- Comments/Complaints

Other Useful Contact Numbers including school address, telephone number and email.

School Address: 26 Hospital Road, Castleberg

School Tel Number: 028816 71642

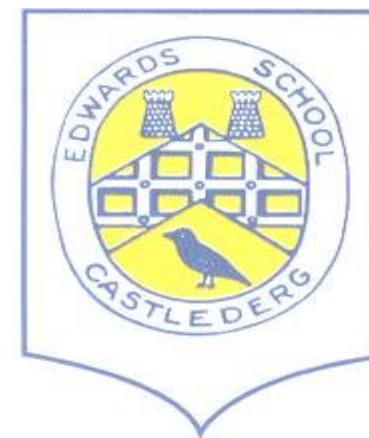
Nursery Tel Number: 02881672970

E-Mail Address: info@edwards.castleberg.ni.sch.uk

Social Services Gateway Team: 028 71314090

PSNI Public Protection Unit: 999 (Emergency) or 101 (Non-Urgent)

EDWARDS PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY UNIT



PASTORAL CARE

Child Protection Policy (Summary)

Information for Parents

Where a love of
learning grows