

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY



In this child protection policy, the welfare of the child is paramount. All children, without exception, have the right to be protected from abuse regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality or beliefs.

There are four commonly recognised categories of child abuse. These are:

- × **Physical Abuse** – hurting or injuring a child, for example by hitting or shaking them. This category is also likely to include bullying.
- × **Sexual abuse** – when an adult exploits their power, authority or position and uses a child sexually to gratify their own needs – it could range from sexually suggestive comments to full intercourse.
- × **Emotional abuse** – when a child is not given love, help and encouragement and is constantly derided, ridiculed or ignored. This also includes racially and sexually abusive remarks.
- × **Neglect** – this usually means failing to meet children’s basic needs such as food, warmth, adequate clothing, medical attention, etc. It could also mean failing to ensure they are safe or exposing them to harm.

It is our policy that all of our teachers have been CRB checked and behave with the utmost professionalism in their relationship with pupils.

As Principal, Linda Greene is the designated individual to whom all suspected cases of abuse should be reported.

All concerns and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and treated with the necessary confidentiality and responded to appropriately. This may require a referral to children’s services and in emergencies, the Police.

The School will keep an accurate record of child protection cases. We will then develop systems in the longer term to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of procedures.