

Child Protection Procedure

How a Parent can make a Complaint
If a parent has a potential child protection concern:

I have a concern about my / a child's safety

I can talk to the class/form teacher

If I am still concerned, I can talk to the
Designated teacher (Mrs Magee
Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection (Mrs Wilson, Mrs Prendergast or Mr. McEvoy) the
Principal (Mr O'Brien)

If I am still concerned, I can
talk/write to the Chair of Board of
Governors (**Mrs Marion Meyer**)

At any time, a parent can talk to a Social Worker at the Gateway Team
Tel: **0800 7837745** (Free Phone from a Landline)
Or can contact the PSNI Central Referral Unit Tel: **028 90259299**

The St. Mary's on the Hill

Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

is available in full on request from the
school office, or at
www.stmarysonthehill.co.uk

Principal: Mr O'Brien, B.Ed. M.Ed. P.Q.H. (NI),
142 Carnmoney Rd, Newtownabbey, County
Antrim,
BT36 6JU
PH: 028 9083 6284

Website: www.stmarysonthehill.co.uk
Email:
info@stmarys.newtownabbey.ni.sch.uk



Child Protection

&

Safeguarding

Key Information

CHILD PROTECTION ETHOS

In St. Mary's on the Hill, we have a pastoral responsibility towards the young children in our care and by law (The Children's Order 1995), must take all reasonable steps to safeguard and promote the children's safety and well-being.

PRINCIPLES

The general principles which underpin our work are those set out in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and are enshrined in the *Children*

(Northern Ireland) Order 1995, the Department of Education (Northern Ireland) publication *Child Protection and Safeguarding in Education – Guidance for Schools and Education Settings (DENI Circular 2026/17)*

St. Mary's on the Hill P.S will ensure that all staff, whether full time or part time, permanent or temporary, are aware of child protection issues and their role with regard to these. The overriding concern of all the people who come to work in St. Mary's on the Hill is the care, welfare and safety of each child, and this is paramount.

The following principles form the basis of our Child Protection Policy;

- It is a child's right to feel safe at all times, to be heard, listened to and taken seriously.
- We have a pastoral responsibility towards the children in our care and should take all reasonable steps to ensure their welfare is safeguarded and their safety is preserved.
- In any incident, the child's welfare must be paramount, this overrides all other considerations.
- A balance must be struck between protecting children and respecting the rights and needs of parents and families; but where there is conflict, the child's interest must always come first.

The Child Protection and Safeguarding Team at St. Mary's on the Hill P.S

Designated Teacher	Mrs Margaret Magee
Deputy Designated Teacher	Mrs Anna Wilson Mrs Jenna Prendergast Mr David McEvoy
Principal	Mr Matthew O'Brien
Designated Governor for Child Protection	Mrs Mary O'Hea
Chair of the Board of Governors	Mrs Marion Meyer