

## Complaints Against Staff

If a complaint of a possible child protection nature is made against a member of staff the same procedures will apply.

If a complaint concerns a member of the child protection team the Chair of the Board of Governors, Mr S Clarke will be informed and assume responsibility of the procedures.

He will work with Ms H Ferguson who is the designated Governor for child protection.

If you require any further information about this policy or procedures please contact the school office or view on the college website.

### Other linked policies:

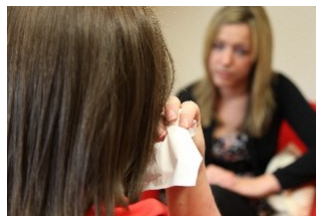
Anti-Bullying

Discipline and Positive Behaviour

Drugs/substance Misuse

Pastoral Care

## If I am worried about something, what can I do?



- I can talk to my class teacher
- I can talk to Mrs S Gardiner the Designated Teacher or Ms H Ferguson, Mrs S Stronge, Mr R Jackson the Deputy Designated Teachers
- I can talk to Miss Watterson the Principal
- I can talk to any member of staff and they will know what to do

**At any time I can talk to the appropriate Duty Social Worker.**

### Gateway Team

South Eastern Region:

Telephone: 0300 1000 300

Address:

South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust

Stewartstown Road

212 Stewartstown Road

Dunmurry

BT17 0FB

### PRIORY INTEGRATED COLLEGE HOLYWOOD

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**PRIORY**  
INTEGRATED COLLEGE  
· HOLYWOOD ·



## SAFE-GUARDING CHILD PROTECTION



**Designated Teacher:**

**Mrs S Gardiner**

**Deputy Designated Teachers:**

**Ms H Ferguson**

**Mrs S Stronge**

**Mr R Jackson**



## *Child Protection Why?*

The purpose of the following procedures on Child Protection is to protect our children.

The welfare of each child in our care is paramount.

Everyone who works in Priory Integrated College has clear guidance on the action required where abuse or neglect of a child is suspected.

Child abuse in any form will not be ignored by anyone in our college.

**The Child Protection Team consists of:**  
**DESIGNATED TEACHER**  
**Mrs S Gardiner**

**DEPUTY DESIGNATED TEACHERS**  
**Ms Heather Ferguson**  
**Mrs S Stronge**  
**Mr R Jackson**

**PRINCIPAL**  
**Miss A Watterson**

### **Definitions**

**Physical Abuse** is deliberately physically hurting a child. It might take a variety of different forms, including hitting, biting, pinching, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning or suffocating a child.

**Emotional Abuse** is the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child. It is also sometimes called psychological abuse and it can have severe and persistent adverse effects on a child's emotional development.

Emotional abuse may involve deliberately telling a child that they are worthless, or unloved and inadequate. It may include not giving a child opportunities to express their views, deliberately silencing them, or 'making fun' of what they say or how they communicate. Emotional abuse may involve bullying, including online bullying through social networks, online games or mobile phones by a child's peers.

**Neglect** is the failure to provide for a child's basic needs whether it be adequate food, clothing, hygiene, supervision or shelter that is likely to result in the serious impairment of a child's health or development. Children who are neglected often also suffer from other types of abuse.

**Sexual Abuse** occurs when others use and exploit children sexually for their own gratification or gain or the gratification of others. Sexual abuse may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example, rape, or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside clothing. It may include non-contact activities, such as involving children in the production of sexual images, forcing children to look at sexual images or watch sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways or grooming a child in preparation for abuse (including via e-technology). Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children.

**Exploitation** is the intentional ill-treatment, manipulation or abuse of power and control over a child or young person; to take selfish or unfair advantage of a child or young person or situation, for personal gain. It may manifest itself in many forms such as child labour, slavery, servitude, engagement in criminal activity, begging benefit or other financial fraud or child trafficking. It extends to the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of children for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation can be sexual in nature.

### **Procedures**

If a child makes a disclosure or of anyone working in the college has concerns about a child they must act promptly. They will report what they have been told to Mrs S Gardiner or in the case of Mrs S Gardiner not being available Ms H Ferguson, Mrs S Stronge or Mr R Jackson.

The Child Protection Team will discuss the matter and a written record will be made.

If appropriate a member of the team will report the issue to Social Services and the EA (CPSSS) Designated Officer for Child Protection and act on their advice. A referral to social services may be required. The police may be involved if it is deemed necessary.

Parents/carers will be informed of action taken unless the child is deemed to be at greater risk by telling them.



**The college does not investigate child protection issues. Our role is to record and report to the appropriate agencies. The investigation of issues is the role of social services and the police.**

It should be noted that information related to possible child abuse issues cannot be held in confidence. The safety of the child is our priority and information may be shared with other professionals. However, only those who need to know will be informed.