



## How can a parent can raise an issue or express a concern?

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



I can talk to the class teacher in the Nursery Unit or Primary School.



If I am still concerned, I can talk to the Designated Teacher for Child Protection -

**Miss J Minnis**

**M Armstrong/Mrs P Addis**



If I am still concerned, I can talk to the Principal

**Mr J Armstrong (Acting Principal)**



If I am still concerned, I can talk/write to the Chairperson of the Board of Governors -

**Mrs J Rodgers** c/o Victoria Primary School & Nursery Unit



*At anytime, I can talk to a social worker at the Gateway Services or the PSNI Public Protection Unit, Newtownabbey. Contact numbers overleaf.*

Details of procedures where a complaint has been made about possible abuse by a member of the school staff are in the full policy document on the website [www.victoriaprimary.org.uk](http://www.victoriaprimary.org.uk)

This copy of the school's Child Protection/Safeguarding arrangements will be maintained and circulated to parents every two years. A full copy of the policy document is available on the school website. A paper copy via can be requested via the school office given 24 hours notice.

## Useful Telephone Numbers & Contacts

Victoria Primary School & Nursery Unit

Acting Principal - Mr J Armstrong 028 93351781

Chairperson of Board of Governors -

Mrs J Rodgers 02893351781

Designated Governor for Child Protection/Safeguarding & E:Safety — Mrs J Rodgers

Single contact for Children's Service referral:

Telephone 0300 1234 333 or 028 9442 4459

Email: [SPOE.Referrals@northerntrust.hscni.net](mailto:SPOE.Referrals@northerntrust.hscni.net)

Northern Trust Referral Gateway Team, Oriel House, 2-8 Castle Street, Antrim BT41 4JE

Out of hours emergency 028 90565444  
(after 5pm evenings/weekends/public/bank holidays)

PSNI Public Protection Unit 028 90650222

NSPCC 0808 800 5000

Child Line 0800 11 11

**REMEMBER: if you have ANY issues regarding child protection or have concerns regarding the safety or well being of any child in our school DO NOT hesitate to contact Miss Minnis or Mr Armstrong immediately.**

Please tear off this slip and return to the class teacher.

I have read the school Child Protection/Safeguarding Policy information.

Comments:

Pupil Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Victoria Primary School & Nursery Unit

Child Protection/Safeguarding

Parental Information 2016/17



Acting Principal Mr J Armstrong

Child Protection is Everyone's Responsibility

Designated Teacher for Child Protection

Miss J Minnis



Deputy Designated Teachers for Child Protection

Mr J Armstrong

Mrs P Addis



## Introduction

This leaflet provides a summary of our child protection policy. The full policy document is available on request from the school office.

- All adults – teaching staff, support staff and volunteers in Victoria Primary School & Nursery Unit accept that they have a primary responsibility for the care, welfare and safety of our pupils.
- No concern about the welfare of any child will be ignored by staff in Victoria Primary School & Nursery Unit. Children's safety and feeling secure and happy in their environment is of paramount importance and it is embedded in the ethos of the school.
- Victoria Primary School & Nursery Unit recognises the importance of a partnership between home and school but where issues of child abuse or suspected child abuse arise, our first and only responsibility is to the child.
- As part of our ongoing work in the area of Child Protection we will endeavour to raise children's awareness about themselves and to develop a trusting climate in which our children feel able to talk and share their thoughts and feelings.

### **THE SAFEGUARDING TEAM AT VICTORIA PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY UNIT**

Chair of Governors:	Mrs J Rodgers
Acting Principal:	Mr J Armstrong
Designated Governor for Child Protection & E safety :	Mrs J Rodgers
Designated Teacher for Child Protection:	Miss Minnis
Deputy Designated Teacher	Mr J Armstrong
Deputy Designated Teacher	Mrs P Addis

## What is Child Abuse?

### Definition of Abuse

'Child abuse occurs when a child is neglected, harmed or not provided with proper care. Children may be abused in many settings, by those known to them, or more rarely by a stranger. There are different types of abuse and a child may suffer more than one of them....'

### **ACPC Regional Policy & Procedure**

### Categories of Child Abuse

#### **Neglect**

Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child's physical, emotional and/or psychological needs, likely to result in significant harm. It may involve a parent or carer failing to provide adequate food, shelter and clothing, failing to protect a child from physical harm or danger, failing to ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment, lack of stimulation or lack of supervision. It may also include non-organic failure to thrive (faltering growth).

#### **Physical**

Physical abuse is the deliberate physical injury to a child, or the willful or neglectful failure to prevent physical injury or suffering.

#### **Sexual**

Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities.

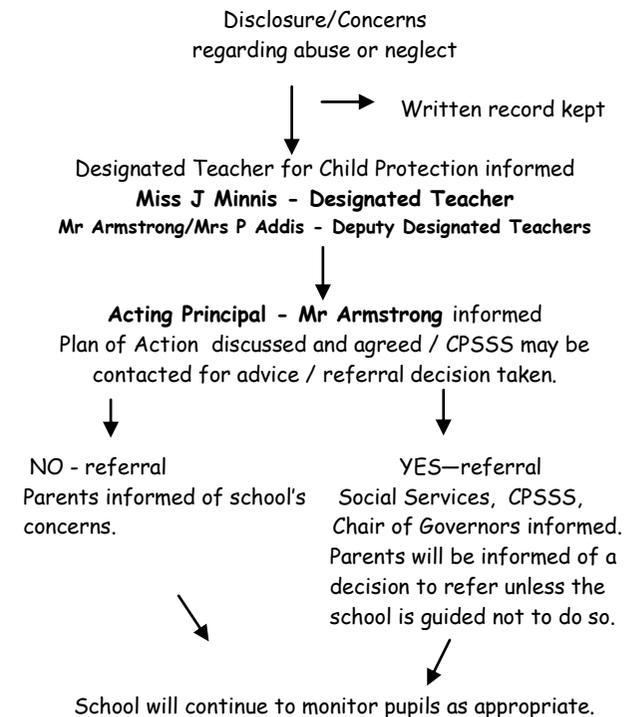
#### **Emotional**

Emotional abuse is the persistent emotional ill-treatment of a child such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on the child's emotional development.

## Procedures

All staff at Victoria Primary School & 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 as described in The Department of Education for Northern Ireland publication 'Pastoral Care in School s— Child Protection (99/10)'.



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.