

Child Protection



Article 19 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child provides that children have *the right to be protected from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation including sexual abuse by those looking after them.*

The Children's Order

The central thrust of the Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995, which came into effect on 4 November 1996, is that *the welfare of the child must be the paramount consideration*, and it is this essential principle which underpins the advice by which we work.

In St Ronan's we believe that an ethos of caring permeates all our activities.

Listed below are the various approaches that we currently take to protect your child.

- All our staff and volunteers have been subject to appropriate background checks.
- Designated teacher is: Mrs G Smith
- Deputy designated teacher is: Mrs D Quinn.
- CCTV Security system at main door and side door.
- All children who leave at other than normal dismissal times must be collected from the office.
- Written permission is required before a child can leave school.

- Children are accompanied safely off the premises.
- Children are encouraged to report any incidences of bullying. These are dealt with promptly.
- External classroom doors are locked at 9.10am.
If you have a concern please follow the procedure as stated below:

The overriding concern of all caring adults must be the care, welfare and safety of the child, and the welfare of each child is our paramount consideration. The problem of child abuse will not be ignored by anyone who works in our school, and we know that some forms of child abuse are also a criminal offence.

If I have a concern about my/a child's safety I can talk to the class teacher.

If I am still concerned, I can talk/write to the Chairman of the Board of Governors.

If I am still concerned, I can talk to the *designated or deputy designated teacher for child protection.

** The designated teacher is a senior member of staff who is responsible for liaising with Trust Child Care Services and other relevant agencies on individual cases of suspected child abuse or where more general concerns exist about a child.*

At any time, I can talk to the social worker (Tel:028 30825000) or the Police (Tel: 028 90650222)

NSPCC Child Protection Helpline 24
hours call free - 0800-800500

Childline UK Freepost 1111 London N1
0BR Tel: 0800-1111 (free)

Newry CARE Unit Ardmore RUC
Station 3 Belfast Road Newry
BT34 1EF (Tel: 028 30832011)

Child Protection arrangements are in
accordance with DENI guidelines
contained in DENI Booklet “Pastoral
Care in Primary Schools Child
Protection”.