

St. Joseph's Grammar School

Scoil Iósaeaf



Pastoral Care

&

Safeguarding/Child Protection

Information for Substitute Teachers

2024-2025

Safeguarding/Child Protection

A Child Protection Policy operates in St. Joseph's. Its aim is to protect our pupils by ensuring that everyone who works in our school - teachers, non-teaching staff and volunteers - has clear guidance on the detection and inter-agency management of situations where abuse or neglect of a child is suspected. 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.

In all their contact with pupils, staff in St. Joseph's follow the guidelines and procedures described in the DENI publication "Safeguarding and Child Protection in Schools: A Guide for Schools" (2017)

The following principles form the basis for our child protection activity:-

- the child's welfare must always be paramount; this overrides all other considerations;
- a proper balance must be struck between protecting children and respecting the rights and needs of parents and families; but where there is a conflict, the child's interest must remain paramount;
- children have a right to be heard, to be listened to and to be taken seriously. Taking account of their age and understanding they should be consulted and involved in all matters and decisions which may affect their lives and be provided with appropriate support to do so where that is required. Where feasible and appropriate, activity should be undertaken with the consent of the child or young person and, where possible, to achieve their preferred outcome;
- parents/carers have a right to respect and should be consulted and involved in matters which concern their family;
- actions taken to protect a child (including investigation) should not in themselves be abusive by causing the child unnecessary distress or adding to any damage already suffered;
- intervention should not deal with the child in isolation; the child must be seen in a family setting. The criminal dimension of any action cannot be ignored;
- children with disabilities are children first and have equal rights to protection. They have particular needs which require specialist attention.
- where it is necessary to protect the child from further abuse, alternatives which do not involve moving the child and which minimise disruption of the family should be explored;

From the Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995, Guidance and Regulations, Volume 6, "Co-operating to Protect Children".

In particular, the central principle which our staff support is that every child has a fundamental right to be safe from harm and to have proper care given to their physical, emotional and spiritual well-being.

In all cases of suspected child abuse the action that will be taken in St. Joseph's is that of informing Social Services and the Southern Education Authority. The school will not be involved in investigating the suspected abuse.

Whilst subbing in St Joseph's Grammar School if you have any Safeguarding/Child Protection concerns about a student or member of staff contact the office immediately on extension 219 and ask to speak to a member of the Safeguarding Team if there is no phone in your classroom send 2 students to reception to ask for a Senior Teacher to come to the classroom (See p.4).

If you have concerns in relation to academic progress or behaviour please inform the HoD and provide a written record.

- Year Head	Year 8:	Mrs D O'Neill & Mrs S Quinn
	Year 9:	Mrs C Herron
	Year 10:	Ms D Ní Neill
	Year 11:	Mr S Donnelly
	Year 12:	Ms K Hughes & Ms R Devine
	Year 13:	Ms D Dolan <i>Assistant:</i> Mr A Gallagher
	Year 14:	Ms D Dolan <i>Assistant:</i> Mr A Gallagher

The above posts may be subject to change

- Senior Teachers:**
- Mr P Corrigan**
Positive Behaviour & CEIAG
K.S.4 Co-ordinator
Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection
- Ms C Taggart**
Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection
- Mr N Kelly**
SENCO
Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection
- Dr M McCoy**
Head of School K.S.3
Public Relations, Marketing, Communications
- Pastoral Vice Principal: Mrs A McGleenan**
Designated Teacher for Child Protection
- Curriculum Vice Principal: Mr P Quinn**
Designated Teacher for Child Protection
- Principal: Mrs G Donnelly**
Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection

Safeguarding Team 2024-2025



SAFEGUARDING/CHILD PROTECTION CUMHDACH/COSAINT LEANAÍ



In St. Joseph's Grammar we have a primary responsibility for the care, welfare and safety of the pupils in our charge. In all their contact with pupils all staff in St. Joseph's follow the guidelines and procedures described in the DENI publication 'Pastoral Care in School – Child Protection' (1999) and St. Joseph's Child Protection Policy & Procedures.

Safeguarding Team members include:



Mrs A. Mc Gleenan
(Vice-Principal)
Designated Teacher for
Child Protection



Mrs G. Donnelly
(Principal)
Deputy Designated Teacher for
Child Protection



Mrs O. McCourt
(Vice-Principal)
Deputy Designated Teacher for
Child Protection
K.S. 5 Contact



Mr P. Quinn
(Senior Teacher)
Deputy Designated Teacher for
Child Protection



Mr P. Corrigan
(Senior Teacher)
Deputy Designated Teacher for
Child Protection



Dr M. McCoy
(Senior Teacher)
Deputy Designated Teacher for
Child Protection



Ms C. Taggart
(Senior Teacher)
Deputy Designated
Teacher for Child
Protection



Mr C. McKenna
Chair of Governors



Ms L. Lavery
Designated Governor
for Child Protection



Mr N. Kelly
*(Senior Teacher
– LSC) Deputy*
Designated Teacher for
Child Protection