



Carniny Primary School



Principal: Mr C R Ross MA BSc Adv Dip Ed PQH (NI)
Vice-Principal: Mrs V Wylie BEd NPQH
Chair of Governors: Dr S Russell

Telephone: 028 2564 3814

61 Old Cullybackey Road
Ballymena
Co Antrim
BT435JR
Website:
www.carninyprimary.co.uk

29 August 2017

Dear Parent,

This guide has been written to provide parents with some background information about child abuse and also to outline the steps Carniny Primary School is taking to ensure that your child can enjoy the safe, secure environment to which they are entitled.

The full 'Child Protection Policy' which includes the staff's Code of Conduct, the use of volunteers in school, recording procedures to be followed etc, is available for you to read in the office at any time or is available online at www.carninyprimary.co.uk under the *Parents - Publications* button.

I would also like to reassure parents that every effort is made within the school to fulfil the terms of the policy and also remind you that if you are concerned about anything which relates to your child's well being, you are welcome to come along and see me at anytime.

All such issues will be treated with the utmost confidence.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Raymond Ross
Principal



Child Protection Policy - Summary

Child abuse occurs in families from all social classes and cultures as well as in agencies and organisations. Abusers come from all walks of life and all occupations and professions. All staff in our school are recruited following Department of Education and NEELB procedures - this includes a criminal record check. The same check is carried out on students on placement from Training Organisations and Institutes of Further and Higher Education.

As Principal, I have a duty to inform Social Services where a concern exists about the likelihood of a child being abused.

Although the upbringing of a child is primarily the responsibility of his / her parents, children may be abused by a parent, a brother / sister, step brother / sister, other relatives, a carer, an acquaintance or a stranger. Abuse may take a number of forms including:-

- **Neglect:** the actual or likely persistent or severe neglect of a child, or the failure to protect a child from exposure to any kind of danger, including cold or starvation, or extreme failure to carry out important aspects of care, resulting in the significant impairment of the child's health or development, including non-organic failure to thrive.
- **Physical Abuse:** actual or likely perpetrated physical injury to a child, or failure to prevent physical injury (or suffering) to a child.
- **Sexual Abuse:** actual or likely sexual exploitation of a child or adolescent.
- **Emotional Abuse:** actual or likely persistent or severe emotional ill-treatment or rejection resulting in severe adverse effects on the emotional and behavioural development of a child.



It is very important that the Principal is **informed** if your child's name has been placed on the Social Services Register of 'Children at Risk'. It is also important that the Principal is **informed in writing** if any member of your child's family does not have permission to collect your child.

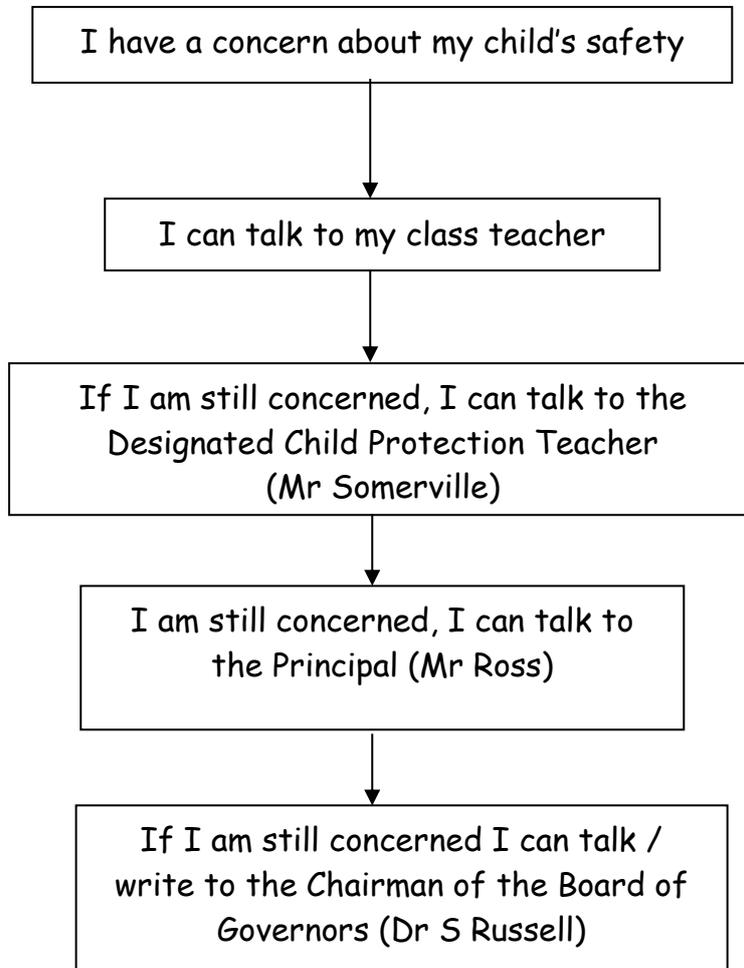
Parents should be prepared to give details of arrangements in the event of a recent separation or divorce, outlining those who have parental responsibility / access to the child.

Please remember that any such information given, will be treated in a strictly confidential manner and shared with other members of staff only on a "need to know" basis.



How a parent can make a complaint

If there are concerns about a child's safety at the school, parents are invited to take the following course of action:



At any time I can talk to:
Social Services 028 2563 5640 (out of hours: 028 9446 8833).
PSNI 028 25653355
Childline (Tel: 0800 1111)
Or NSPCC (Tel: 028 90351135)

