



NEWTOWNARDS MODEL PRIMARY SCHOOL

PASTORAL CARE AND CHILD PROTECTION POLICIES

As well as a statutory responsibility in relation to our pupils' learning, the school has a pastoral responsibility which permeates all activities and involves all staff.

We will carry out this responsibility through our Pastoral Care and Child Protection Policies, which aim to provide a caring and safe environment where each pupil is enabled to achieve their potential and have a clear sense of self worth.

We will encourage pupils to play a full part in the life of the school. We will pay attention to the work done by each pupil, assessing progress made and giving support as he/she sets and pursues targets. We will help the individual acquire values and a sense of respect and responsibility towards himself/herself and others so that they may understand and develop their role as a good citizen.

In addition, the school recognises that children have a fundamental right to be protected from harm.

One way in which we seek to protect our pupils is by helping them to recognise unwelcome behaviour in others and acquire the skills and confidence they need to keep themselves safe.

All our staff and volunteers have been subject to appropriate background checks. The staff of our school have also adopted a code of Practice for our behaviour towards pupils.

Everyone who works in our school has clear guidance on the action which is required where abuse, whether emotional, physical or sexual, or neglect of a child is suspected.

The designated teacher for Child Protection is Mr C Millar, Vice Principal.

The deputy designated teacher is Miss Annette Christie

Procedures for Reporting Suspected or Disclosed Child Abuse

- ❖ If a pupil makes a disclosure to a member of staff which gives rise to concerns about possible abuse, or if a member of staff has concerns about a child, the member of staff must act promptly.
- ❖ She/he should report these concerns immediately to the designated teacher.
- ❖ The designated teacher will discuss the matter with the Principal as a matter of urgency to plan a course of action.
- ❖ Unless there are concerns that a parent may be the possible abuser, the parents will be informed immediately.
- ❖ The Principal or designated teacher will make a referral to Social Services and will send a copy of the referral to the SEELB designated officer – Mrs Kate Bridge.

**AT ALL TIMES THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE CHILD MUST BE THE
PARAMOUNT CONSIDERATION**