

**SUMMARY OF OUR SAFEGUARDING and
CHILD PROTECTION POLICY**

We at Rasharkin Primary School strive to create a secure, happy and caring environment in which pupils can learn and develop all their talents. There is a whole school structured approach to Safe Guarding, promoting an ethos that contributes to the care, safety and well-being of all the children in our school.

**OUR FULL SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION POLICY IDENTIFIES THE
ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE:**

- Safeguarding Team;
- Board of Governors;
- Chair of the Board of Governors;
- Designated Governor for Safeguarding/Child Protection;
- Principal;
- Designated Teacher for Safeguarding/Child Protection;
- Deputy Designated Teacher for Safeguarding/Child Protection;
- Parent/Carers

Parents/carers can view our full policy on our school website:

www.rasharkinprimaryschool.com

- POLICIES & DOCUMENTS
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

or they can request a hard copy from the school office

Rasharkin Primary School

Bamford Park

Rasharkin

BT44 8RS

Phone: **028 2957 1383**

E-mail: rhowe432@c2Kni.net

OUR SAFEGUARDING TEAM

The following are members of the school's Safeguarding Team

- | | | |
|--|------------------|---------------|
| • Designated Teacher | Mrs R Henry * | *during Mrs |
| • Deputy Designated Teacher | Mrs R Calderwood | Henry's |
| • Principal | Mrs R Howe | maternity |
| • Designated Governor for Child Protection | Mrs L Wylie | leave Miss |
| • Chair of the Board of Governors | Rev. J Blue | Pamela |
| | | Richmond will |
| | | act as |
| | | Designated |
| | | Teacher |

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- **The child or young person's welfare is paramount.**
- **The voice of the child or young person should be heard.**
- **Parents are supported to exercise parental responsibility and families helped to stay together.**
- **Partnership** This involves effective information sharing, collaboration and understanding between families, agencies, individuals and professionals.
- **Prevention** The importance of preventing problems occurring or worsening through the introduction of timely supportive measures.
- **Responses should be proportionate to the circumstances**
- **Protection** children should be safe from harm.
- **Evidence-based and informed decision making**

THE TYPES OF ABUSE CHILDREN CAN SUFFER ARE:

- **Physical Abuse**
- **Emotional Abuse**
- **Neglect**
- **Sexual Abuse**
- **Exploitation**
- **Specific types of abuse**
 - Grooming
 - Child Sexual Exploitation
 - Domestic and sexual violence and abuse
 - Female Genital Mutilation
 - Forced marriage
 - E-Safety/Internet abuse

Bullying

Staff at Rasharkin P.S. recognise that bullying is also a distressing form of abuse and will not be tolerated. All staff will be vigilant and will implement the strategies from the anti-bullying policy to help prevent this.

PREVENTATIVE CURRICULUM

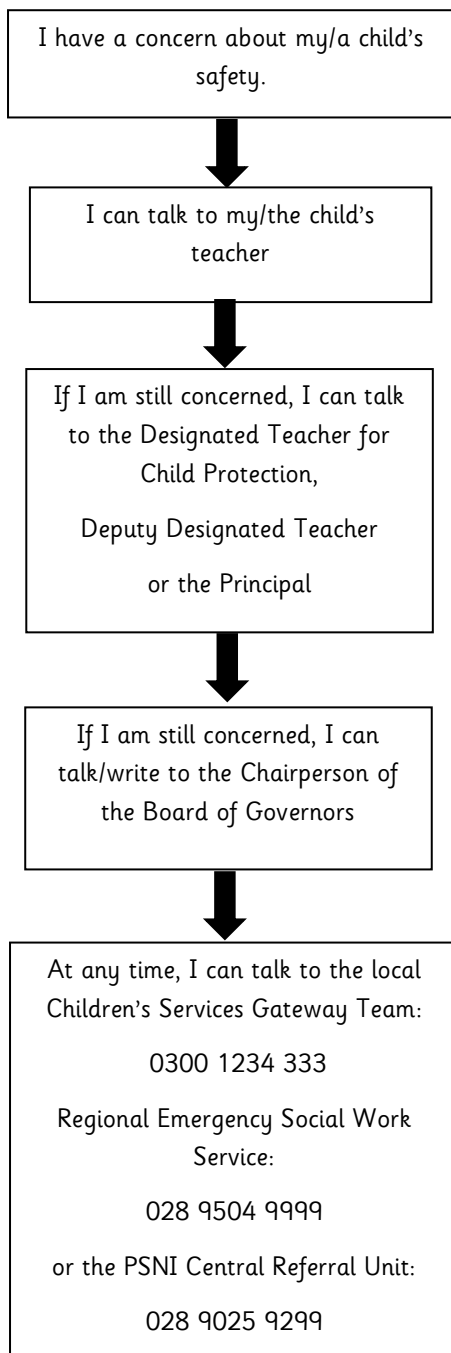
Throughout the school year 'keeping safe messages' or the 'preventative curriculum' is mainly delivered through Personal Development and Mutual Understanding (PDMU) and Relationships and Sexuality Education lessons. These are used to proactively promote positive emotional health and wellbeing amongst children, by raising awareness of issues, developing confidence, resiliencies and coping strategies of pupils and offering intervention when pupils experience difficulties. Important messages are also shared with pupils at times through, e.g. visitors to school, e.g. NSPCC, PSNI. We believe this gives children the opportunities to develop age appropriate, protective behaviours.

PROCEDURES (Department of Education, ‘Safeguarding and Child Protection in Schools’ updated September 2019)

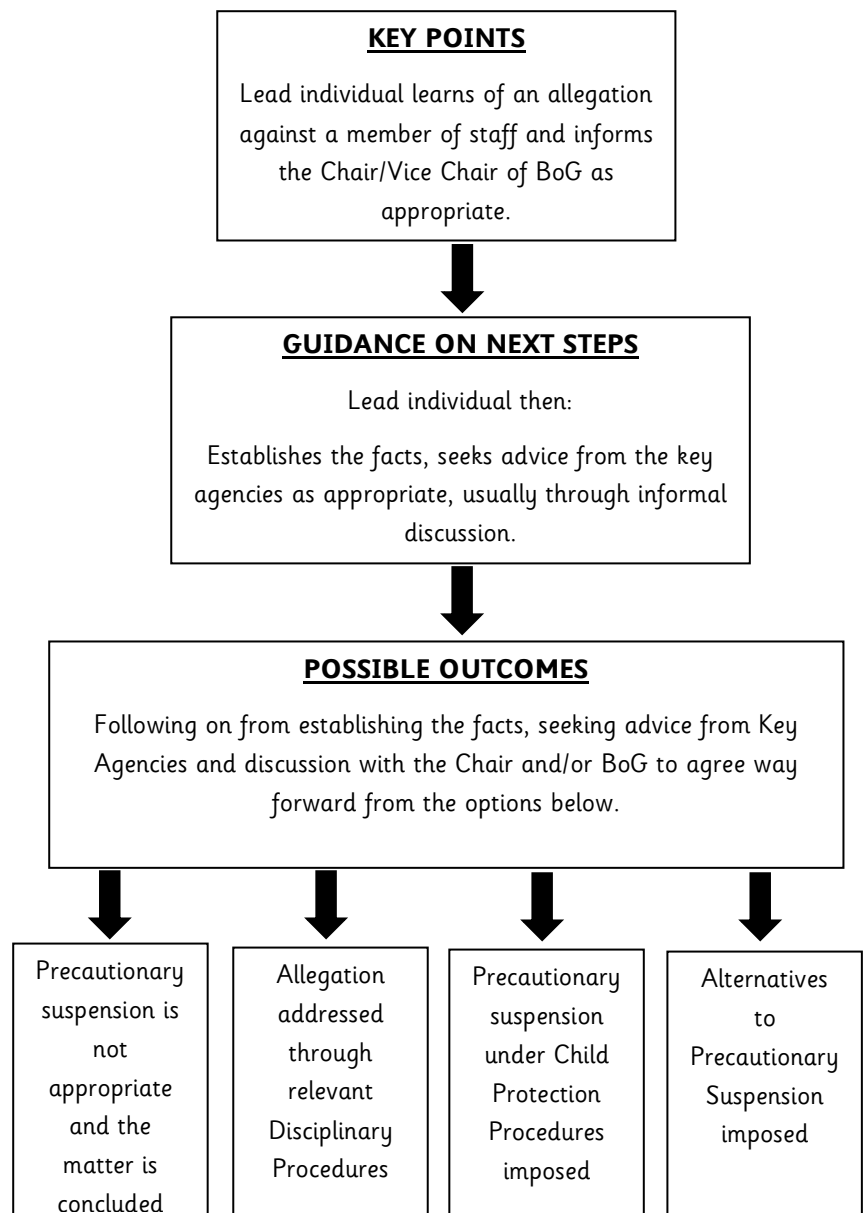
Please see the flow diagrams explaining our school’s procedures with respect to:

- How a parent/carer can raise a concern about Child Protection/Safeguarding;
- The procedure when dealing with allegations of abuse against a member of staff; and
- The procedure where the school has concerns, or has been given information, about possible abuse by someone other than a member of staff.

How a parent/carer can raise a concern about child protection



Dealing with Allegations of Abuse against a Member of Staff



Procedure where the school has concerns or has been given concerns about possible abuse by someone other than a member of staff

Member of staff completes the Note of Concern on what has been observed or shared and must ACT PROMPTLY.
Source of concern is notified that the school will follow up appropriately on the issues raised.



Staff member discusses concerns with the Designated Teacher or Deputy Designated Teachers in his/her absence and provides Note of Concern.



Designated Teacher should consult with the Principal or other relevant staff before deciding upon action to be taken, always taking care to avoid undue delay. If required advice may be sought from a CPSS officer.



Child Protection Referral is required
Designated teacher seeks consent of the parent/carer and/or the child (if they are competent to give this) unless this would place the child at risk of significant harm then telephones the Children's Services Gateway Team and/or the PSNI if a child is at immediate risk. He/she submits a completed UNOCINI referral form within 24 hours.

Designated Teacher clarifies/discusses concern with child/parent/carers and decides if a child protection referral is or is not required.

Child Protection Referral is not required
School may consider other options including monitoring the situation within an agreed timescale; signposting or referring the child/parent/carers to appropriate support services such as the Children's Services Gateway Team or local family support Hub with parental consent, and child/young person's consent (where appropriate).



Where appropriate the source of the concern will be informed as to the action taken. The Designated Teacher will maintain a written record of all decisions and actions taken and ensure this record is appropriately and securely stored.