

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

YSGOL EIFIONYDD



Y person dynodedig amddiffyn plant yn Ysgol Eifionydd yw: Mrs.Lyn Parry Hughes
The designated child protection person at this school is:

Y Llywodraethwr Dynodedig yw: Mrs. Nia Fon Lane
The Designated Governor is:

Y Swyddog Diogelu Plant yn yr adran addysg yw: Ffion Rhisiart, Adran Addysg, Cyngor Gwynedd, Caernarfon, Gwynedd. LL55 1SH

The Designated Protection Officer in the education department is:

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Introduction

1.1 Ysgol Eifionydd fully recognizes its contribution to child protection.

Our policy consists of three main elements:-

- a. Prevention through teaching and pastoral support provided for pupils;
- b. Procedures for identifying cases or suspicions of abuse and report on them. Due to our daily contact with children, school staff are in a situation to continue to observe any outer signs of abuse; and
- c. Support possible victims of abuse.

1.2 Our policy applies to the entire staff and volunteers who work at the school, and to the School Governors. Perhaps learning support assistants, lunch time supervisors, carers, administration staff as well as teachers, will be the first people whom a child informs.

Prevention

2.1 We recognize that high self-esteem, confidence, supportive friends and good lines of communication between pupils and an adult in which they can confide, assists to protect pupils.

The school will therefore:-

- a. Establish and maintain an ethos where the pupils feel safe and are encouraged to speak, and where we listen to them;
- b. Ensure that the children know that there are adults at the school whom they can turn to if they are concerned or are in difficulties;
- c. Include, in the curriculum, Personal and Social Education activities and opportunities to provide the children with the necessary skills to protect themselves from abuse and know who to turn to for support; and
- d. Include, in the curriculum, material to assist pupils to develop realistic attitudes towards responsibilities in adult life, especially child care and bringing up children skills.

Procedures

- 3.1 We will adhere to All Wales Child Protection Procedures that have been confirmed by the Local Safeguarding Children Board.
- 3.2 The school will:-
- a. Ensure that it has a senior member of designated staff who has received appropriate training;
 - b. Recognize the role of the designated person and organize support and training. Schools may wish to talk about the additional training that is received by their designated person;
 - c. Ensure that all staff members and every governor is aware of:
 - the name of the designated person and his role;
 - that they have a responsibility as individuals for referring child protection concerns through using the correct channels and within the deadlines agreed with the Local Safeguarding Children Board; and
 - what action to take about those concerns if the designated person is unavailable.
 - d. Ensure that staff members are aware of the need to be aware of signs of abuse and know how to respond to a pupil who may divulge that abuse has occurred;
 - e. Ensure that parents understand the school and staff's responsibility for child protection through noting their commitments in the school prospectus;
 - f. Provide training for the entire staff so that they are aware:-
 - i. What their personal responsibilities are;
 - ii. What are the locally agreed procedures;
 - iii. That there is a need to be vigilant to identify instances of abuse; and
 - iv. How to support a child who divulges that abuse has occurred
 - g. Notify the local social services team if:-
 - a pupil placed on the protection register is excluded either for a fixed term or permanently; and
 - if a pupil who is on the child protection register is absent from school without an explanation for more than two days (or for a day following a weekend);
 - h. Work to develop effective links with relevant agencies and collaborate, as required, with their enquiries into child protection issues, including attending child protection conferences, initial review with core groups and presenting written reports to the conferences;
 - i. Keep written records of concerns about children (noting the date, the incident and the measures taken), even where there is no need to refer the matter immediately to social services;
 - j. Ensure that all records are safely kept under lock and key;
 - k. Adhere to the procedures mentioned in the Welsh Assembly Government guidance circular;
 - l. Ensure that recruitment and selection procedures are drawn up in accordance with Welsh Assembly Government guidelines in the circular 34/2002 "Child Protection: Preventing Inappropriate People from Working with Children and Young People in the Education Service", and
 - m. Designate a child protection governor to supervise the school's child protection policy and practices.

Support the at Risk Pupil

- 4.1 We recognize that children who may be at risk, who face abuse or who have witnessed violence, may be hugely impacted by this.
- 4.2 Perhaps the school is the only element and a stable, safe and secure haven in the lives of at risk children. However, when they are at school, their behaviour may be challenging and unruly, or they may become withdrawn.
- 4.3 The school will try and support the pupil through:-
- a. Including aspects in the curriculum that encourage self-worth and self-motivation (see section 2 on Prevention);
 - b. The school ethos:-
 - i. promotes a positive, supportive and safe environment; and
 - ii. Gives pupils a sense of self-worth (see Section 2 on Prevention);
 - c. One of the school's behaviour policy aims is to support vulnerable pupils at the school. All staff

will agree on a consistent method of implementation that focusses on the behaviour of the child who has transgressed but without harming the pupil's sense of self-worth. The school will try and ensure that the pupil knows that some types of behaviour are unacceptable, but that she or he are appreciated and are not to blame for any abuse that has occurred;

- d. Maintain regular contact with other pupil support agencies, such as Social Services, Children and Young People Mental Health Services, the Education Psychology Service, Behaviour Support Services and Education Welfare Service; and through keeping minutes and notifying Social Services as soon as any concerns re-emerge.

- 4.4 When a pupil who is on the child protection register moves from the school, we immediately transfer the information to the new school and notify Social Services.

Bullying

- 5.1. Our policy on bullying is noted in (separate document/school behaviour policy) and is annually reviewed by the governing body.

Physical Intervention

- 6.1. Our policy on physical intervention is noted in (a separate document) and is annually reviewed by the governing body.

SEN Statemented Pupils

- 7.1. We recognize that statistically, pupils who have disabilities and behavioural difficulties are the most at risk to suffer abuse. There is a need for school staff who deal with children who have serious and multiple disabilities, sensory impairments and/or behavioural and emotional problems, to be especially sensitive to signs of abuse.