

PUCKLECHURCH CE VC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Child Protection Policy

Rationale

To help all children be more confident and give them the opportunity to acquire the fundamental principles of personal safety.

Purposes

- To increase a child's self-awareness, self-esteem and self-confidence.
- To help the child develop his/her judgement in order to keep safe.
- To enable children to work out strategies to protect themselves.
- To help children understand that they have rights and responsibilities.

Broad Guidelines

- Child Protection should be integrated into our school curriculum and be incorporated into the P.S.H.E. and Citizenship programme of work.
- We should work in collaboration with parents and other agencies to inform children of potential dangers in a positive way.
- Our curriculum should promote the philosophy that children have rights and responsibilities.
- We should aim to ensure that all teaching and non-teaching staff have the opportunity to undertake appropriate training in Child Protection issues relevant to their role in school.
- When an issue is identified, 2 members of staff should be present when talking to/with the child.

Conclusion

Child Protection should foster an improved, caring ethos within the school and give children strategies to protect themselves in the world outside.

CHILD PROTECTION PROCEDURES

- The file containing the County's guidelines is kept in the Head's office.
- Procedures and Disclosure Guidance are attached to this policy.
- Confidential files containing information about specific children for whom there is a concern, are kept in a locked filing cabinet in the Head's room. These files are regularly reviewed and updated and staff informed of their content.

Any suspicions about child abuse must be referred immediately to the Head or the next most senior teacher, if the Head is absent, who will decide if referral to other agencies is warranted on the evidence.

This rule must be followed, as it is an important part of Child Abuse procedures.

Protection of the child is paramount and failure to follow the procedures could create legal problems or difficulties.

Ann Smith is the designated member of staff for Child Protection and in the unlikely event of the Head and Deputy being absent, any problems should be referred to her.

Ann E. Smith, P.S.H.E. & Citizenship manager. October 2003.

Discussed with staff 7.11.03