



St. John the Baptist P.S. is committed to the provision of a high quality of education for all pupils and high standards to all whom it serves.

We believe that the fostering of trust and good relationships with the parents/guardians of our pupils is very important. The close partnership between home and school would help ensure that all our children learn and develop to their full potential in a caring, supportive and safe environment.

Good communication is essential if we are to achieve this. If you have any concerns about any aspect of your son/daughters education please contact the school and arrange a meeting with the class teacher and/or Principal.

We would encourage you to attend our Parent/Teacher meeting so that members of Staff can keep you informed regarding your child's progress and development.

If you have any concerns about your child's safety you should use the following procedure to make a complaint:-

- I have a concern about my child's safety
- I can talk to the Class teacher or Principal Miss McGarrigle.
- If I am still concerned, I can talk to the designated teacher for child protection (Mrs Edel Brown)
- If I am still concerned I can talk/write to the Chairman of the Board of Governors.

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St. John the Baptist P.S.

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**St. John the Baptist P.S.
Roscor**

Promoting excellence for all
within an enabling learning
environment guided by
Christian principles

PASTORAL CARE



CHILD PROTECTION AND SAFEGUARDING

Information for Parents

AIMS

St. John the Baptist PS Roscor aims to establish a caring environment within which the academic, personal, social and spiritual potential of each child will be developed. The pastoral dimension permeates all school activities.

We in St John the Baptist PS have a primary responsibility for the care, welfare and safety of the pupils in our charge and we will carry out this duty through out pastoral care policy which aims to provide a caring, supportive and safe environment.

PRINCIPLES

Our Child Protection Policy is based on the following principles:

- Children must always have a right to be heard, to be listened to and to be taken seriously.

The child's welfare must always be paramount.

- Parents/Carers have a right to respect but a proper balance must be struck between ensuring this and protecting children.
- Every child has the fundamental right to be safe from harm and have proper care given to their

Physical

Emotional &

Spiritual Well being.

PROCEDURES

We at St. John the Baptist PS will follow the following procedures on **Child Protection** to protect our pupils.

- All staff—Teachers, non teaching staff and volunteers will have clear guidance on the section which is required where abuse or neglect of a child is suspected.
- All staff and volunteers will undergo a vetting procedure in order to maintain the highest standard of professional care towards our children.
- All staff will attend in service training on Child Protection organised by EANI.
- Children will be supervised at all times while in school grounds.
- Pupils will be supervised to their mode of transport when leaving school.
- When it is necessary for a child to change their normal arrangements for going home, permission will only be given on receipt of a written request by a parent/guardian.
(*Telephone calls in emergency only*)
- Access to the school building is granted by secretary Mrs C McManus after ringing buzzer at the front entrance.
- All visitors to the school must report to the secretary's office or Miss McGarrigle's Class room.
- A Pupil sign out form must be completed if a child is removed from school during school hours. Time of return must be noted also.

Bullying is a highly distressing and damaging form of abuse and will not be tolerated in our school. All staff will be vigilant at all times and will aim to prevent bullying by raising awareness with pupils, staff and parents about bullying, its forms and consequences.

All staff of St. John the Baptist's will ensure that all children are aware of who they can talk to if they are sad, worried, being bullied or have any other concerns.

The designated teacher for Child Protection is Mrs Edel Brown and Mrs Aisling Sinclair will assume responsibility in her absence. Miss Aideén McGarrigle takes responsibility in her absence.

The Department of Education of Northern Ireland requires all those working in education to cooperate fully with Social Services and other agencies to protect children. It is therefore our duty to refer if there is a concern about any form of abuse. The following diagram shows the procedure we are required to follow as described in the Department of Education of NI publication, 'Pastoral Care in School—Child Protection (1999)'

