

At St Mary's, we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

We expect everyone to share this commitment.

Safe Working with St Mary's Primary School:

- ◆ Provide a good example and be a positive role model.
- ◆ Treat all children equally, never build a special relationship or favour a particular child above others.
- ◆ Ensure when working with individual children that you are visible to others.
- ◆ Follow the school's photography policy.
- ◆ Follow the school's touch and restraint policy.
- ◆ Never engage online with children or give out contact details.



Allegations:

- ◆ Any allegation should be reported immediately to the DSL.
- ◆ If the concerns are about the DSL please inform the Chair of Governors or the Assistant DSL.

Who to speak to if you are concerned about a child at St Mary's



Miss Claire Halstead
Designated Senior Leader
(DSL) Safeguarding



Miss Chrissy Paterson
Assistant DSL
Safeguarding

Mr Michael Mulrooney
Named Governor for
Safeguarding



Everyone has a responsibility to make sure that children within St Mary's Primary School are safe, as 'Every Child Matters'. Please do not;

- Decide to do nothing.
- Leave the premises without telling anyone.



St Mary's Sabden
RC Primary
School

CHILD PROTECTION & SAFEGUARDING



Volunteers'/Visitors' Responsibilities:

Everyone who comes into contact with children, whether paid or voluntary are responsible for their own actions and behaviour. You should avoid any contact which would lead any reasonable person to question your motivation and intention.

At St Mary's we all have a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of all our children.



Please follow our code of conduct

- ◆ Do treat everyone with respect.
- ◆ Do provide an example you wish others to follow.
- ◆ Do plan activities so that they may involve more than one person or at least be in the sight of others.
- ◆ Do respect a child's right to personal privacy.
- ◆ Do allow children the facility to identify behaviour that makes them uncomfortable.
- ◆ Do remember that someone else may misinterpret your actions however well intentioned.
- ◆ Do not play physical games, make inappropriate comments, or have inappropriate banter with children.
- ◆ Do not jump to conclusions without checking facts.

Worried About a Child?

Abuse (physical, sexual, emotional) or neglect can have a damaging effect upon a child's health, education, attainment and emotional wellbeing. Changes in a child's behaviour may not necessarily indicate a child is suffering abuse or neglect. However, if whilst working with a child you become concerned, please report these concerns to the class teacher immediately.

Disclosures of Abuse:

Whilst this can be an alarming situation, it is important that you know what to do in such an eventuality.

- ◆ Stay calm and controlled, listen to what is being said, without showing shock or disbelief.
- ◆ Accept what is being said
- ◆ Allow the child to talk freely, listen rather than direct by asking questions.
- ◆ Reassure, but do not make promises you cannot keep.
- ◆ Explain that you will talk to their teacher/head teacher so that they can help.
- ◆ Do not ask leading questions, or interrogate.
- ◆ Stress that talking was the right thing to do.
- ◆ Record details immediately (ask for a child protection form) & attempt to use the exact words and phrases used by the child. Sign and date the form.
- ◆ Immediately report your concerns and give any written information to the designated leader.
- ◆ Be aware of your feelings about abuse and find someone with whom you can share them.
- ◆ It is important to remember that children's details remain confidential and do not leave the school.



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