

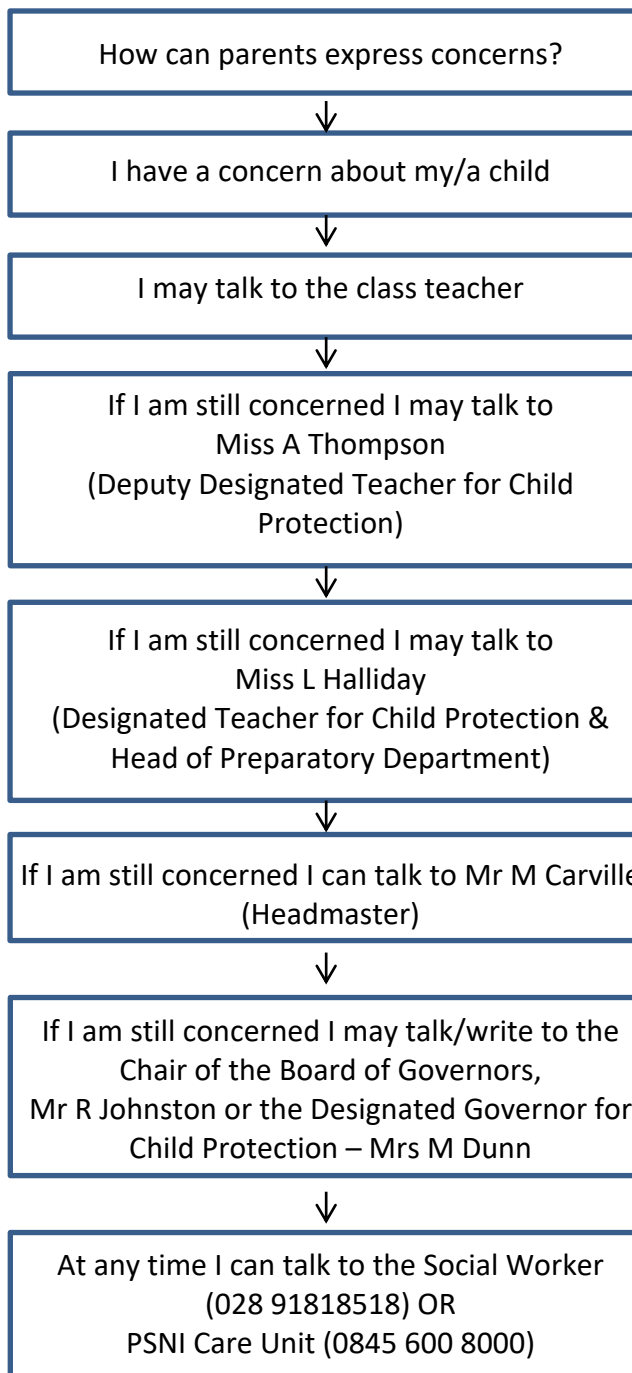


Regent House Preparatory Department

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**Regent House School  
Preparatory Department**



**Child Protection**

**2023-2024**

## School Policy

### Aims

To provide a secure, caring and supportive environment in which the basic rights of each individual are respected, protected and safeguarded.

To create an atmosphere in which pupils feel confident and at liberty to share concerns.

To create amongst staff an awareness of the symptoms of possible child abuse and of the correct procedure for dealing with such.

To foster trust and good relationships with pupils and parents and to encourage parents to take all reasonable steps to secure a safe environment for their children outside school.

As well as statutory responsibilities in relation to pupils' learning, schools have a pastoral responsibility towards their pupils and the young people in their charge have a right to be protected from harm. It is therefore the policy of the Preparatory Department to safeguard and promote the welfare and safety of our pupils.

This is a summary of our policy. A more detailed document is available on request.

### Trained Staff

In school, you may speak to either of the teachers named below who have been trained in Child Protection issues.

Miss L Halliday (Designated Teacher, Head of Preparatory Department)

Miss A Thompson (Deputy Designated Teacher)

### What is Child Abuse?

#### Abuse can take any of the following forms:

##### **Neglect**

Neglect is the actual or likely, persistent or significant neglect of a child, or the failure to protect a child from exposure to any kind of danger, including starvation or failure to carry out important aspects of care, resulting in the significant impairment of the child's health or development.

##### **Physical**

This is the actual or likely deliberate physical injury to a child, or wilful or neglectful failure to prevent physical injury or suffering.

##### **Sexual**

Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities. These activities may include non-contact activities such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of pornographic material or watching sexual activities or encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways.

##### **Emotional**

Emotional abuse is the persistent emotional ill-treatment of a child such as to cause severe and personal adverse effects on a child's emotional development.

##### **Exploitation**

Exploitation is the intentional ill-treatment, manipulation or abuse of power and control over a child or young person; to take selfish or unfair advantage of a child or young person or situation, for personal gain. It may manifest itself in many forms such as child labour, slavery, servitude, engaging in criminal activity, begging, benefit or other financial fraud or child trafficking.

#### Operation Encompass

As an Operation Encompass school, when the police have attended a domestic incident and one of our pupils is present, they will contact the school at the start of the next working day to share this information with a member of the school safeguarding team. This will allow the school safeguarding team to provide immediate emotional support to this child as well as giving the designated teacher greater insight into any wider safeguarding concerns. This information will be treated in strict confidence, like any other category of child protection information. For more information, please read our Safeguarding Policy on the school website

## Disclosure Procedure

If at any time a child makes a disclosure to a member of staff that gives rise to concerns about possible harm or if a member of staff has concerns about a child, the member of staff will act immediately and the following procedures will be applied:

- S/he will speak to Miss L Halliday (Designated Teacher for Child Protection) in the first instance.
- Miss L Halliday will discuss any concerns with Miss A Thompson (Deputy Designated for Child Protection) and with Mr M Carville (Headmaster). The EA Child Protection team will also be informed.
- If appropriate, a referral will be made immediately to Social Services.

**Where a disclosure of abuse is made, the school is legally obliged to refer the matter to Social Services immediately.**

## Pupil Counselling Service

Our pupil counsellors are Mrs Gourley and Mrs Hanson. They may both be contacted by e-mail using the following e-mail address: [ggourley783@c2kni.net](mailto:ggourley783@c2kni.net).

The counsellors will be in the designated office in the main corridor at the following times:

Mon 9:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Wed 9:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Thurs 9:00 am - 2:00 pm