

Ysgol Glan y Môr School Child Protection Policy

Introduction

1.1 Ysgol Glan y Môr fully recognizes its contribution to child protection.

Our policy comprises three principal elements:-

- a. prevention through the teaching and pastoral support provided for pupils;
 - b. procedures to identify instances or suspicions of abuse and report on them. Due to our daily contact with children, school staff are well-placed to observe any external signs of abuse; and
 - c. support pupils who may have been abused.
- 1.2 Our policy is of relevance to all staff and volunteers who work at the school, and to the management board. It may be the case that teaching support assistants, mid-day supervisors, carers as well as teachers, will be the first persons to whom a child divulges information.

Prevention

2.1 We recognize that high self-esteem, confidence, supportive friends and good lines of communication between pupils and an adult whom they can trust assist to protect pupils.

The school therefore:-

- a. establishes and maintains an ethos where children feel secure and are encouraged to converse, and where their voice is heard;
- b. ensures that the children are aware that there are adults at the school to whom they can turn if they are concerned or are in difficulties;
- c. includes, in the curriculum, Personal Education activities and opportunities to provide the children with the necessary skills to safeguard themselves from abuse and know who to turn to for support; and
- d. includes, in the curriculum, material to assist children to develop realistic aspects towards life's responsibilities as an adult, especially child care and parental skills.

Procedures

3.1 We adhere to All Wales Child Protection Procedures that have been confirmed by the Local Safeguarding Children's Board.

3.2 The school:-

- a. ensures that it has a senior member of designated staff who have received the appropriate training;
- b. recognizes the role of the designated person and organizes support and training. Schools may wish to mention the additional training provided by their designated person;
- c. ensure that every staff member and every governor is aware of:-
 - the name of the designated person and his role;
 - that they have individual responsibility for referring child protection concerns using the correct channels and within the time frame agreed upon with the Local Safeguarding Children's Board; and
 - how to act on those concerns in the absence of the designated person;

- d. ensure that staff members are aware of the need to watch out for signs of abuse and know how to respond to a pupil who may provide disclosure of abuse;
- e. ensure that parents understand the school and staff's responsibility for child protection noting their commitments in the school prospectus;
- f. provide training for the entire staff so that they are aware of:-
 - i. their personal responsibilities;
 - ii. what are the locally agreed procedures;
 - iii. the need to watch out for cases 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 on the protection register is excluded either for a prescribed period or permanently;
 - if a pupil 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 towards developing effective contacts with relevant agencies and co-operate, as required, with their enquiries into child protection matters, including attending the initial review with core groups and child protection conferences and present written reports to the conferences;
- i. keep written records of concerns about children (specifying the date, the incident and what steps have been taken), even when the matter does not need to be immediately referred to social services;
- j. ensure that all records are securely kept and under lock and key;
- k. comply with the procedures mentioned in the Welsh Assembly Government's guidance circular;
- l. ensure that recruitment and selection procedures are drawn up in compliance with the Welsh Assembly Government guidelines contained in the circular 34/2002 "Child Protection: Preventing Inappropriate People from Working with Children and Young People in the Education Service"; and
- m. designate child protection governors to monitor the school's child protection policy and practices.

Supporting the At Risk Pupil

- 4.1 We recognize that children at risk, who face abuse or who witness violence, may be deeply impacted by this.
- 4.2 The school may be the only stable, secure element in the lives of at risk children. However, when they attend school, they may display challenging and unruly behaviour, or may become withdrawn.
- 4.3 The school will seek to support the pupil through:-
 - a. including aspects in the curriculum that encourage self-value and self-motivation (see section 2 on Prevention);
 - b. school's ethos:-

- i. promotes positive, supportive and secure environment; and
 - ii. provides pupils with a sense of self-esteem (see section 2 on Prevention);
 - c. supporting at risk pupils at the school is one of the school's behavioural policy aims. All staff members will agree on a regular implementation method that focusses on the behaviour of a child who has transgressed but without harming the pupil's self-esteem. The school will try and ensure that the pupil is aware that certain types of behaviour are unacceptable, but that she or he is appreciated and are not to blame for any abuse that has occurred;
 - d. maintain close links with other agencies who support the pupil, such as Social Services, the Children and Young People Mental Health Services, the Education Psychology Service, the Behavioural Support Services and Educational Welfare Service, and through keeping minutes and notifying Social Services as soon as any concerns are again raised.
- 4.4 When a pupil placed on the child protection register moves from the school, the information will be immediately transferred to the new school and Social Services will be notified.

Bullying

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

Physical Intervention

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

Children with Statements of Special Educational Needs

- 4.7 We recognize in statistical terms that disabled children and with behavioural difficulties are at greatest risk of abuse. School staff who deal with children who have serious and multiple disabilities, sensory impairment and/or behavioural and emotional problems, need to show particular sensitivity towards signs of abuse.

The designated child protection person in this school is Mrs Menai Jones. In her absence matters should be referred to the Deputy : Mr Guto Wyn

The designated governor is the Chairman : Mr Iolo Jones

The designated Protection Manager in the education department is : Ffion Rhisiart. Phone number: 01286 682794

Policy reviewed: November 2016

Policy adopted : November 2016

Signed: *Iolo Jones*