

ST. BEDE'S CATHOLIC JUNIOR SCHOOL

celebrates life and learning



SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS



Aim of this leaflet

In this leaflet, we are sharing with you school policies and practices with regards to ensuring that children are taught to live healthy lifestyles and adopt safe practices.

Statement of Intent

At St. Bede's Catholic Junior School we are committed to providing a friendly, caring, safe, Christian environment for all our children so that they can learn in a relaxed and secure setting. We believe every child should be able to participate in all activities safely and be safe from harm.

The adults in our community protect and promote children's rights to survive and thrive, to learn and grow, to make their voices heard and to reach their potential.

We recognise our responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all our pupils by protecting them from physical, sexual or emotional abuse, neglect and bullying.

School policies are in place to ensure that there is a consistent approach to practices throughout the school and that they are adhered to by staff, Governors and volunteers.

Adults have a tremendous impact on young children, therefore, with this in mind, adults at St. Bede's Catholic Junior School:

- ❖ are good role models for children;
- ❖ enjoy their work and working with children;
- ❖ are conscientious and hard-working;
- ❖ recognise and value strengths in each other and use these to support everyone;
- ❖ work within that agreed policies and procedures of the school;
- ❖ promote a happy, caring and safe school;
- ❖ encourage children to think for themselves, ask questions and find answers;
- ❖ create an environment of trust;
- ❖ challenge and support children in their learning.

There are numerous policies in place to safeguard our children which include:

Child Protection - this is a sensitive area in which all staff receive regular training. Here, school and other services for children and families all work together to support the needs of children.

The school has a trained Child Protection Senior Designated Person (Mrs. Geoghegan) Deputy (Mrs. Harrington), and named Governor (Mr. Owen).

Attendance - children's attendance at school is monitored on a daily basis and notable absences or patterns of absences are followed up by our Education Welfare Officer. The school prides itself on its very good attendance figures which are always above national average. We believe that every day and every lesson counts.

Behaviour - high standards of behaviour are expected in school. There are more details in our Behaviour for Learning Policy. Children are expected to interact positively with others and engage in the challenge of learning.

Health and safety - everyone at St. Bede's Catholic Junior School knows that she/he has a responsibility to ensure children and adults are able to work in a healthy and safe environment. Checks are undertaken by Staff and Governors. There are termly fire drills.

The school has fully trained work place and paediatric first aid members of staff who deal with accidents when they occur.

Risk Assessments are carried out by staff prior to any off-site visits.

Curriculum - through the planned curriculum, we ensure that the issues of healthy eating, physical exercise and safety are taught. This aspect is enhanced by the many visitors we have to school.

Security - we ensure your child is taught in a safe and secure environment in many ways, for example, by:

- ❖ having a secure playground which is fenced and gates locked
- ❖ at least two adults being on each playground at playtime and lunchtime;
having one reception to the school building for visitors and ensuring all visitors sign in and out, and wear badges



E Safety - children are taught the correct way to access information on the Internet from an early age. They know how to report anything they see which they know is wrong.

Safer recruitment and selection - this aspect is taken very seriously. Governors and the school ensure that all staff new to the school and volunteers who work in school undertake a DBS check and full references are acquired before the person takes up post.

Prevent Duty - it is essential that staff are able to identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation, and know what to do when they are identified.

Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation is part of the school's safeguarding duties, and is similar in nature to protecting children from other harms. Our school also builds pupils' resilience to radicalisation by promoting fundamental British values and enabling them to challenge extremist views.

Operation Encompass - is to safeguard and support children who have been involved in a domestic abuse incident. Following such an incident, children will often arrive at school distressed, upset and unprepared. Operation Encompass aims to ensure that appropriate school staff are made aware early enough to support children in a way that means that they feel safe and included.

The morning following an incident the Police contact and give the necessary information to a Key Adult in School. The staff are then in an informed position to support the child in a way that is right for that particular child, either with silent or overt support.

Further information can be found at <http://www.operationencompass.org/>

Complaints - if parents/carers have any complaints, the school staff will listen to your concerns and will follow up any issues arising. The school is committed to working closely with parents / carers for the benefit of the children. Remember no problem is too small and can often be prevented from becoming a bigger issue. If you continue to feel an issue has not been resolved, then make arrangements to meet with the Headteacher, Mrs. Tiernan, and she will try to help to resolve any problem. If you are still unhappy you could contact the Chair of Governors (Mr. Owen).

We all know that children thrive better and are able to reach their full potential when school and families work closely together. The staff at St. Bede's Catholic Junior School are totally committed to this and we look forward to our continuing close partnership with you in the future.