

## Summary of Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

St Patrick's Academy strives to educate all our pupils within an environment where the Catholic traditions of learning, truth, justice, respect and community are promoted. Consequently, the overall aim of this policy is to safeguard and promote the welfare of the children in our care (in situations where child abuse is suspected, our paramount responsibility is to the child).

This will be achieved by:

- Continuing to develop awareness in all staff of the need for Child Protection (particular care should be taken with children with disabilities and SEN) and their responsibilities in identifying abuse.
- Ensuring that all staff are aware of referral procedures within the school.
- Monitor children who have been identified as 'at risk'.
- Ensuring that outside agencies are involved where appropriate.
- Ensuring that key concepts of Child protection are integrated within the curriculum especially via PSHE.
- Create an environment where children feel secure, have their viewpoints valued, are encouraged to talk and are listened to.

### **SCHOOL PROCEDURES**

Any parent, member of staff or pupil with an issue or concern relating to Child Protection (it should be made clear to students that **CONFIDENTIALITY CANNOT BE GUARANTEED IN RESPECT OF CHILD PROTECTION ISSUES**) should immediately discuss it with a senior member of staff who will inform the Designated, or Deputy Designated Teacher.

**Designated Teacher** – **Mr James Ward, (Deputy Head)**  
**Deputy Designated teacher** – **Mrs G McCann, (Senior Teacher)**

The Principal, Dr Seamus Quinn will then initiate and take responsibility for appropriate actions, including involving outside agencies.

We are currently reviewing our Safe Guarding and Child Protection Policy and would appreciate your feedback. If you would like to raise any concerns or suggestions please contact the school.

**A draft copy of our revised Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy is available [stpatsni.co.uk](http://stpatsni.co.uk) or from the school.**