

Ysgol Gynradd Dafen Primary School



Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

This policy shows due regard to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Article 18: Responsibility of parents

Article 19: Protection from violence

Article 28: Access to Education

Introduction

DAFEN Primary School fully recognises the contribution it makes to child protection.

There are three main elements to our policy:

- prevention through the teaching and pastoral support offered to pupils, and the use of preventative services, such as Team Around the Family (TAF) in schools
- procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases, of abuse or harm. School staff are well placed to observe the outward signs of abuse,
- support to pupils who are in need or who may have been abused.

Our policy applies to **all** staff, governors and volunteers working in the school. Learning support assistants, mid-day supervisors, caretakers, secretaries as well as teachers can be the first point of disclosure for a child.

Dafen School will annually review the policy and is committed to following any new guidance received from Carmarthenshire County Council or Welsh Government.

The Designated Senior Person for child protection at Dafen School is

Mrs Michelle Davies

Prevention

We recognise that high self-esteem, confidence, supportive friends and good lines of communication with a trusted adult helps to safeguard pupils.

The school will therefore:

- Establish and maintain an ethos where children feel secure and are encouraged to talk, and are listened to
- Ensure children know that there are adults in the education setting whom they can approach if they are worried or in difficulty
- Include in the curriculum activities and opportunities for relationships and sexuality education which equips children with the skills they need to stay safe from abuse and to know whom to turn for help

- Include in the curriculum material that will help children develop realistic attitudes to the responsibilities of adult life, particularly with regard to childcare and parenting skills
- Build relationships with other agencies and ensure early and appropriate referrals for support and intervention are made before risks escalate
- Take a whole-school approach to well-being which will incorporate safeguarding and preventative measures to support children and families

Procedures

The following procedures should be followed in the event of a child protection disclosure/concern.

The school will follow the Wales Safeguarding Procedures that have been endorsed by the Local Safeguarding Children Board. The school will:

- Ensure there is a Designated Senior Person (DSP) for child protection who has undertaken the appropriate training. The Designated Senior Person is *Michelle Davies* and the Deputy Designated Senior Person is *Tracey Singleton*.
- Recognise the roles of the DSP and DDSP and arranging support and training
- Ensure that every member of staff and every governor knows:
 - a) the names of the DSP and DDSP and their roles, the local authority point of contact and the designated governor for safeguarding
 - b) that they have an individual responsibility for reporting children at risk and protection concerns to social services, or to the police, within the timescales agreed with the Regional Safeguarding Board and how to take forward those concerns when the DSP is unavailable
- Ensure that all members of staff are aware of the need to be alert to signs of abuse and neglect, and know how to respond to a learner who may disclose abuse or neglect
- Ensure that members of staff who are EWC registrants are aware of the *Code of Professional Conduct and Practice for registrants with the Education Workforce Council* and the expectation within the Code that the registrant has regard to the safety and well-being of learners in their care and related content

<https://www.ewc.wales/site/index.php/en/fitness-to-practise/code-of-professional-conduct-and-practice-pdf.html>

- Ensure that parents/carers have an understanding of the responsibility placed on the school staff for safeguarding and child protection by setting out its obligations in the school prospectus
- Provide training for all staff so that they:
 - understand their personal responsibility
 - know the agreed local procedures and their duty to respond
 - are aware of the need to be vigilant in identifying cases of abuse and neglect
 - know how to support a child who discloses abuse or neglect
 - understand the role online behaviours may have in each of the above
- Notify the local authority's social services team if:
 - a learner on the child protection register is excluded, either for a fixed term or permanently
 - there is an unexplained absence of a learner on the child protection register of more than two days' duration from school (or one day following a weekend)
 - work to develop effective links with relevant agencies and cooperate as required with their enquiries regarding child protection matters, including attendance at initial review as well as child protection conferences and core groups and the submission of written reports to the conferences
 - keep written records of concerns about children (noting the date, event and action taken) even when there is no need to refer the matter to the local authority immediately

- ensure all records are kept secure. *The school has records and Safeguarding issues through **MyConcern**. This system allows all staff to manage and record all safeguarding and wellbeing concerns. Processing in this way will provide a high-level view of the pupils in our care, enabling the school to proactively identify risks and enable early intervention.*
- adhere to the procedures set out in the Welsh Government's *Disciplinary and dismissal procedures for school staff: Revised guidance for governing bodies*
gov.wales/disciplinary-and-dismissal-procedures-school-staff
- ensure that recruitment and selection procedures are made in accordance with Welsh Government's *Keeping learners safe* guidance
- designate a governor for safeguarding who will oversee the school's child protection policy and practice. **The designated Safeguarding Governor for Dafen School is Mr Andrew Rogers.**

Supporting those at risk

We recognise that children/young people who are at risk, suffer abuse or experience violence may be deeply affected by this.

Dafen Primary School may be the only stable, secure and predictable element in the lives of children at risk. Nevertheless, when at school their behaviour may be challenging and defiant or they may be withdrawn.

Dafen School will endeavour to support the learner through:

- the content of the curriculum to encourage self-esteem and self-motivation
- the school ethos which:
 - promotes a positive, supportive and secure environment
 - gives learners a sense of being valued (see section 2 on Prevention)
- the school's behaviour policy, which is aimed at supporting vulnerable pupils. All staff will agree on a consistent approach that focuses on the behavioural outcomes of the child but does not damage the individual's sense of self-worth. The school setting will endeavor to ensure that the learner knows that some behaviour is unacceptable but that they are valued and not to be blamed for any abuse which has occurred
- liaising with other agencies who support the learner such as the educational psychology service, behaviour support services, education welfare service, child and adolescent mental health services and advocacy services
- keeping records and notifying the local authority as soon as there is a recurrence of a concern

Local authorities, governing bodies and proprietors also need to be able to show they have considered whether children, including individual children in their area have any specific safeguarding needs in addition to those covered by guidance. If so, they must have policies and procedures in place to meet those needs.

When a learner on the child protection register leaves the school, the information will be transferred to the new school immediately and social services will be informed.

All child protection referrals go to the Central Referral Team

☎ 01554 742322

✉ CRTChildren@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Out of Hours- ☎ 0300 333 2222

In addition the following officers will be able to advise with safeguarding matters:

Caryl Davies – School Safeguarding Officer

☎ 01554 742369

✉ Carylmdavies@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Rebecca Copp – Local Authority Designated Officer

☎ 01267 246595

✉ Rcopp@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Anti-bullying

The school's Anti-bullying Policy is set out in a separate document and is reviewed annually by the school's governing body.

Physical Intervention

The school's policy on Physical Intervention is set out in a separate document and is reviewed annually by the governing body and is consistent with the Welsh Government's guidance *Safe and effective intervention – use of reasonable force and searching for weapons*

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-03/safe-and-effective-intervention-use-of-reasonable-force-and-searching-for-weapons.pdf>

Children with Additional Learning Needs

We recognise that statistically children with additional learning needs are most at risk of abuse. Staff who work with children with an additional learning need, such as a profound and multiple disability, sensory impairment or emotional and behavioural problems need to be particularly sensitive to signs of abuse.

Signed by Chair of Governors on behalf of the Governing Body:

Mr Gareth Edwards 2022

Mr Emyr Brown 2023

Signed by Headteacher:

Mrs M Davies

Date approved: 10th November 2022

Reviewed: 28/09/23