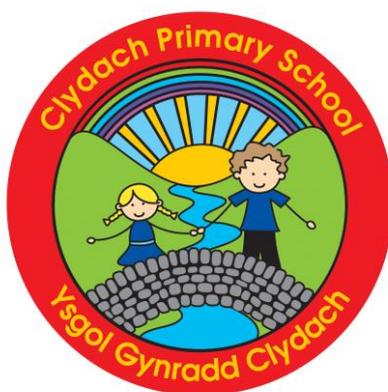


# **Clydach Primary School**

**YSGOL GYNRADD CLYDACH**



## **Child Protection Policy 2013/14**

## **Child Protection Policy**

This document should be read in conjunction with:

- The All Wales Child Protection Procedures 2008.
- Code of Practice for Staff.
- Staff Facing an Allegation of Abuse
- The Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need and their Families 2002.

The staff and governors of this school fully recognise the contribution they make to safeguarding children. The welfare of all pupils in this school is a priority. We believe that our school should provide a caring, supportive and safe environment which promotes the social, physical and moral development of each child by the provision of a curriculum and ethos which promotes self worth, confidence and independence. No child can learn effectively and reach their potential unless they feel secure.

The aims of this policy are:

- to ensure that all pupils know that they will be listened to and be able to communicate easily any concerns which they may have;
- to raise the awareness of all teaching staff, associate staff, Governors and volunteers to the need to safeguard pupils by identifying those “children in need”\* and possible cases of child abuse;
- to emphasise the need for staff in this school to work in partnership with other relevant agencies (particularly Social Services Department and the Police) and to support them in carrying out their statutory duties;
- to ensure that staff are clear about their individual responsibilities for reporting concerns and that they understand the reporting procedures;
- to ensure that the school and Governing Body practise safe recruitment in checking the suitability of staff and volunteers working with pupils;
- to provide a systematic means of monitoring children known or thought to be at risk of harm.

\*Child in Need – a Child in Need is a child who may be in need of support from Social Services or another agency but not necessarily at risk of significant harm and in need of immediate protection. Referrals should be made, as for Child Protection, on The ‘My World’ Request For Service Assessment and Referral Form.

### **The Designated Teacher for Child Protection**

In this school the Head teacher Mrs Emma Peters is the designated teacher in respect of Child Protection matters. In her absence the Deputy Head Mrs Sarah McComas will assume responsibility for those matters.

We will ensure that all staff and Governors are aware of who the Designated teacher is.

### **The role of the designated teacher is:**

- the coordination of all child protection issues, acting as a source of advice and support for any staff who have concerns or information that a pupil may be suffering abuse or be a child in need;
- to be responsible for making referrals to Social Services;
- to ensure that the school is represented at case conferences and core meetings and contributes fully by providing reports as required;
- to attend training on a regular basis and cascade training to staff;
- to ensure that all staff (including agency workers and those directly employed by the school) are in possession of a valid and current CRB certificate.
- to ensure that all staff (including new staff/supply teachers) have access to all the relevant child protection documents and are clear about their own responsibilities;
- to report any allegation about a member of staff to the Local Education Authority's Child Protection Coordinator;
- to ensure that a chronological record of concerns is maintained if there are concerns about a child even if there is no need to make an immediate referral;
- to attend any Senior Strategy Meetings;
- to ensure that all records including case conference minutes are kept confidentially and securely (separate from pupil records);
- to send the child's records, including all child protection information, immediately to any school to which the child transfers.

## **Governor for Child Protection**

The Chair of Governors is the nominated Governor for child protection. Their role is to ensure:

- that the school has a child protection policy in place which is reviewed annually to ensure its effectiveness;
- that the Designated teacher and other staff attend appropriate and regular training;
- that any allegation made against the Head teacher is immediately reported to them. The Chair of Governors will then contact the Local Education Authority's Child Protection Coordinator immediately and attend any Senior Strategy Meeting which is called;
- that the school has an up to date and agreed staff disciplinary procedure for dealing with allegations of misconduct against members of staff including Child Protection allegations;
- that the school operates safe recruitment procedures and ensures that all appropriate checks are carried out on all relevant staff in accordance with current regulations.
- that there is an item on the agenda of a Governor Body meeting at least once a year where the Designated teacher will report on:
  - changes to child protection procedures or policy
  - training undertaken by all staff and Governors in the preceding twelve months.
  - the number of incidents of a child protection nature which arose in the school within the preceding twelve months (without details or names)
  - where and how child protection appears in the curriculum

## **Action To Be Taken By Our School**

- We will attend relevant training on child protection on a regular basis.
- We will follow the All Wales Child Protection Procedures.
- All staff will inform the designated teacher of any concerns that a pupil is suffering or is likely to suffer abuse or of any disclosure of abuse.
- Referrals will be made immediately to Social Services by telephone and followed up within two working days in writing using the My World Assessment and Referral Form.
- Any child on the child protection register absent without explanation will be referred to Social Services and the Education Welfare Officer.

- All staff will inform the designated teacher of any allegations made against staff volunteers in the school.
- We will endeavour to build relations of understanding, trust and confidence with other agencies in order to ensure the best possible outcomes for children.

**Prevention**

- The school has an important role in preventing abuse by providing our pupils with good lines of communications with trusted adults within a safe environment.
- Our school encourages children to talk and to be listened to.
- Our school ensures all children know there is someone in school who they can approach if they are worried or in difficulty.
- Our school will include opportunities within the PSHE curriculum for pupils to explore issues to help them develop the skills to stay safe from harm and to know to whom they can turn for help.

**The Statutory Basis of Child Protection**

Children Act 1989  
 The Children Act 2004  
 Safeguarding Children in Education – the role of Local Authorities and Governing Bodies under the Education Act 2002 Circular 005/2008.

The governing body has a duty under section 175 of the Education Act 2002 to ensure “that their functions relating to the conduct of the school are exercised with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children....”

Head teacher: .....Emma Peters .....

Chair of Governors: .....Jan Jarman.....

Date reviewed: October 2013