

St Augustine's RC High School

Child Protection Policy



“With respect for each other, let’s
make a difference”.



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1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the procedures and guidelines to ensure the safety and well-being of children and young people in St Augustine's RC High School. All members of the school community should understand their role and responsibilities with regards to child protection and safeguarding.

2. Introduction

Within our School/ELC we aim to create an environment in which all of our children and young people feel safe, well cared for and where they are able to flourish.

The following rights of children, outlined in the **United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child**, are reflected in this policy:

Article 3

All adults should do what is best for you. When adults make decisions, they should think about how their decisions will affect children.

Article 19

You have the right to be protected from being hurt and mistreated, in body or mind.

Article 27

You have the right to food, clothing, and a safe place to live and to have your basic needs met. You should not be disadvantaged so that you cannot do many of the things other kids can do.

Article 33

You have the right to protection from harmful drugs and from the drug trade.

Article 34

You have the right to be free from sexual abuse.

Article 36

You have the right to protection from any kind of exploitation.

Article 37

No one is allowed to punish you in a cruel or harmful way.

Article 39

You have the right to help if you have been hurt, neglected, or badly treated.

Adults working in our setting know and understand the indicators that may suggest that a child or young person is suffering or is at risk of suffering harm. Arrangements for making a child protection or safeguarding concerns are well-publicised and understood by all partners, learners and parents.

As part of the The City of Edinburgh Council, St Augustine's RC High School follows the Edinburgh and Lothian Multi-Agency Child Protection Procedures (2023):

<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/23055/edinburgh-and-the-lothians-multi-agency-child-protection-procedures>

These procedures align with the themes of, and practice within, the National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2021 (updated 2023).

3. What is Child Protection?

Child Protection refers to the processes involved in the consideration, assessment and planning of required action, together with the actions themselves, where there are concerns that a child may be at risk of harm.

Child protection is part of the Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC) continuum of collaborative duties placed upon agencies working with children.

Child protection applies to all children up to the age of 18 years of age. Concerns about a 16 or 17-year-old should be raised under the same process.

4. Responsibilities for Child Protection

All members of the St Augustine's RC High School community have a key role in the support and protection of children. The protection and wellbeing of the child must remain at the heart of all considerations and decisions.

All members of our school community should have a clear understanding of our child protection procedures. This includes children and young people.

Information on our child protection procedures are shared with visitors when they arrive in St Augustine's RC High School. All visitors when signing into the school are asked to scan a QR code to acknowledge our child protection procedures. There is also additional information on all visitor badges along with information posters at reception and around the building.

All staff, partners and volunteers in our school are suitably trained in how to respond to safeguarding matters appropriate to their role. They take part in an annual update in August of each year.

Most staff are trained as a Specific Workforce (previously Level 2). This is refreshed every 3 years. Supply or temporary staff in our schools are inducted by our Child Protection Coordinator.

Those members of staff who lead on Child Protection are trained in Managing Child Protection in a School/Early Years Setting (Intensive Workforce, previously Level 4). This is refreshed every 3 years and booked via MyLearningHub.

In St Augustine's RC High School they are:

- Robert McLauchlan (Child Protection Coordinator)
- Tony O'Doherty (Head Teacher)
- Lesley-Ann Baird (Depute Head Teacher)
- Steven Frew (Depute Head Teacher)

If asked, the Child Protection Coordinator will provide relevant information to assist any Child Protection concern.

5. What to do if a child or young person makes a disclosure or allegation?

We understand that schools/ELCs are usually a protective factor in a child or young person's life. Children and young people may form strong and trusting relationships with key adults, and then feel confident to make a disclosure relating to their life.

It can be very hard for children and young people to speak out about abuse. Often, they fear there may be negative consequences if they tell anyone what's happening to them. Even if a child doesn't tell someone verbally what's happened to them, there may be other indicators that something is wrong. People who work with children need to be able to recognise the signs and know how to respond appropriately.

It is vital that children and young people feel safe and can speak out. They should know that whoever they tell takes them seriously and acts on what they've been told.

- Give them your full attention and keep your body language open.
- **Do not agree to keep anything confidential.** It is important that the child or young person knows that you may have to share information with the Child Protection Coordinator who may take further action.
- Use open ended questions, and avoid leading questions, to gather the basic facts.
- Use 'wh' questions such as *where, when, who* and *what*. Do not ask 'why?'
- Reassure them that they have done the right thing.
- Let them speak at their own pace and don't interrupt them.
- Show you understand by reflecting back what they have said. This also checks your understanding.
- Take a non-biased approach.
- It's important to keep a note of any information so that you can share this with the Child Protection Coordinator. Any description of physical gestures or

behaviours should be recorded accurately using correct anatomical terminology. *In Early Years it is essential to note any vocalisations accurately.*

6. Worried about a child or young person?

If you have a concern about a child or young person, or if a disclosure has been made to you, you must speak to the Child Protection Coordinator in your establishment. You should do this as soon as possible. You should also complete a Wellbeing Concern Form summarising your concerns.

If your concern is urgent, and you are unable to contact the Child Protection Coordinator, or another member of the school leadership team, you must contact Social Care Direct. This is the City of Edinburgh Council's Social Work duty team. Their number is 0131 200 2324.

It is not your job to investigate any child protection concerns. It is your duty to report.

If in doubt, check it out.

7. Responsibilities to report to Social Care Direct

We recognise that intervention in a child and family's lives can be traumatic events in themselves, and every action taken will be underpinned by an understanding of the impact of trauma and how to minimise this.

The protection and welfare of children must be at the heart of all considerations and decisions. Children and their main care givers should be involved and included at every stage of the child protection process unless there is a clear and demonstrable reason why this would increase risk to a child.

In appropriate situations a referral may be made to one of the core agencies – Social Work, Police or Health.

Sharing relevant information as soon as possible is essential to protecting children from harm. Information sharing should be lawful, fair and transparent. Staff and volunteers do not need to be certain that a child has been harmed or is at immediate risk before sharing information. Where someone has reason to believe that a child may be at risk of harm, they must share relevant information with one of the core agencies to support analysis and decision making.

8. Responsibilities to report to the Care Inspectorate

Our Early Learning and Childcare Setting is registered with the Care Inspectorate and has additional responsibilities with regards to notifications and record keeping. By law, we must inform the Care Inspectorate immediately if the following events take place:

- Accidents, incidents or injuries
- Outbreak of an infectious disease
- Death of a child
- Allegations of abuse
- Allegation of misconduct by a provider or employee
- Medication error or incident

9. Information for Parents and Carers

If you are worried about your child's safety, or the safety of another child, please speak to the Child Protection Coordinator in school.

The Child Protection Coordinator will also be able to provide information and support to families with regards to how Child Protection and Safeguarding is managed in St Augustine's RC High School including how it is addressed in the curriculum.

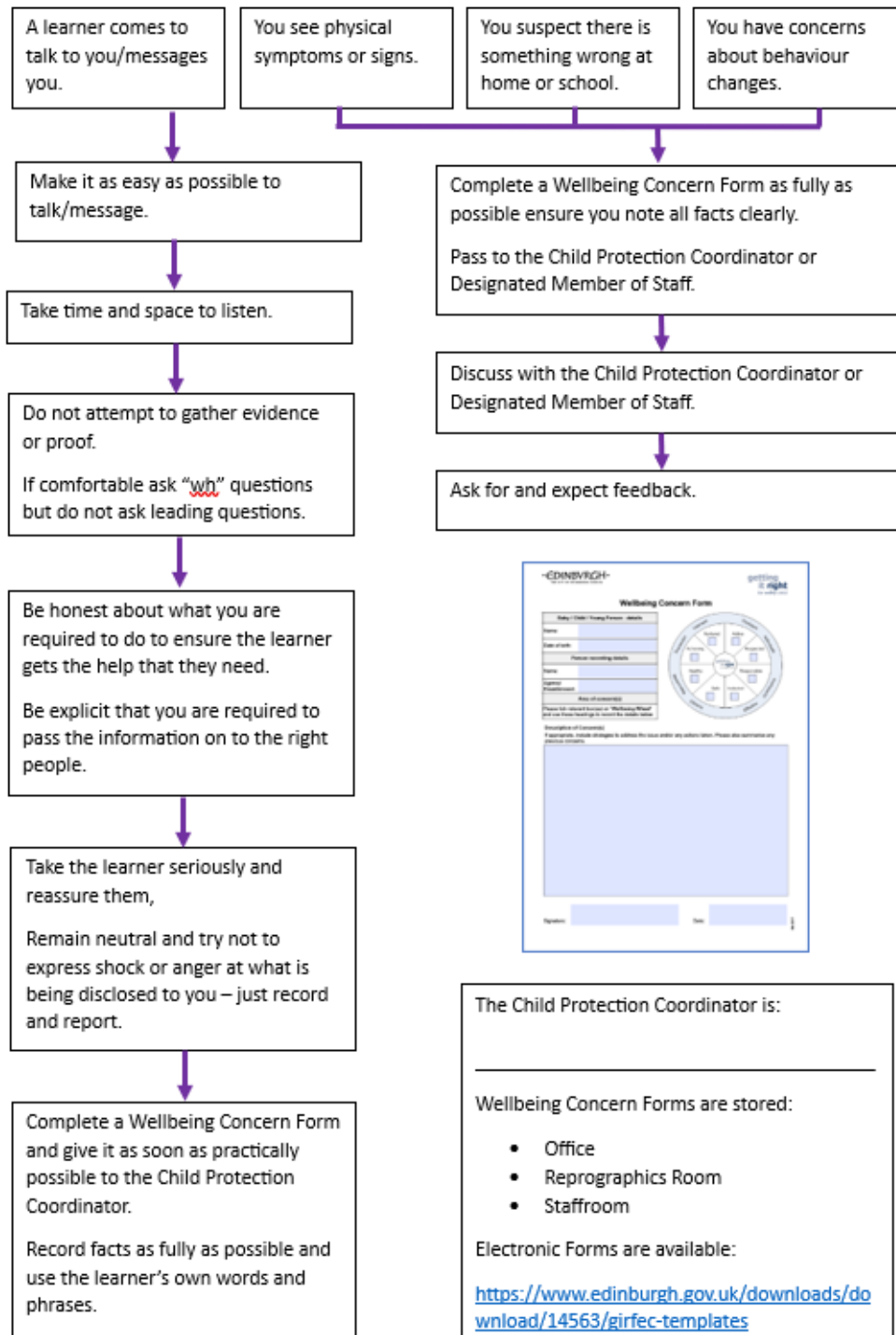
The Child Protection Coordinator has a responsibility for having clear policies and processes in place.

They must act upon concerns about risk of harm to a child or children. The priority will always be the safety and protection of children.

It may be deemed appropriate to share information about children with statutory services, such as Social Work. Sharing relevant information is an essential part of Child Protection. In most cases, consent will be sought before information is shared. If there is evidence that a child is at risk of significant harm, consent is not required.

The Child Protection Coordinator will be open and honest. Parents and carers should be given as much information as possible about the processes and decision making.

10. Response Flowchart



If there is an immediate risk to the child, contact the police.

11. Allegations of Abuse Against Staff

Occasionally, an allegation of abuse may be made against a member of staff.

Staff must report any information which raises concern about the behaviour of a member of staff towards a child or young person to the Head Teacher or Head of Centre. If the allegation is against the Head of Establishment, they should report this to the next tier in their line management structure. This will likely be the Head of Education for the locality.

If you are unsure of who to report a concern to, contact Social Care Direct.

12. Visitors to the school

All visitors to school/ELC are informed of what to do if they have concerns, and who the Child Protection Coordinator is. This includes all supply staff. Details are also printed on the back of visitor badges and posters are displayed throughout the school.

Our Child Protection Procedure is displayed on our school website.

13. Safe Working Practices

All staff, volunteers and partners are expected to behave in a manner that maintains appropriate professional boundaries and to avoid behaviour which might be misinterpreted by others.

Adults have a responsibility to ensure that an unequal balance of power is not used for personal advantage or gratification.

14. Further Information

It is understood that Child Protection and safeguarding can be distressing. This may be if you have had lived experience of abuse, or if a child or young person has made a disclosure to you. Please discuss any concerns with your line manager or make use of The City of Edinburgh Council's 24/7 employee assistance programme, PAM Assist.

15. Relevant Policies, Procedures and Links

- National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2021
<https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-guidance-child-protection-scotland-2021-updated-2023/>
- Edinburgh and the Lothians Multi-agency Child Protection Procedure (December 2023)
<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/23055/edinburgh-and-the-lothians-multi-agency-child-protection-procedures>
- The Handbook of Procedures for the Management of Pupils with Healthcare Needs in Educational Establishments (December 2023)
<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/34341/handbook-of-procedures-for-the-management-of-pupils-with-healthcare-needs-in-educational-establishments>
- UNCRC
<https://www.unicef.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/unicef-convention-rights-child-uncrc.pdf>
- Managing Allegations of Abuse Against Staff
<https://orb.edinburgh.gov.uk/directory-record/254689/allegations-of-abuse-against-staff>
- MyLearningHub
<https://mylearninghub.learn.link/login>
- GIRFEC Materials
<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/girfec/child-planning-folder/1>




Raising a Child Protection and Safeguarding Concern

WHAT IS CHILD PROTECTION?

Child Protection is about making sure that all children and young people are safe and well-cared for.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS OR ARE WORRIED

If you are concerned about a child or young person in St Augustine's RC High School, please speak ask to speak to our Child Protection Coordinator. They are:

	<p>Robert McLauchlan DHT- Child Protection Co-ordinator</p>
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If they are not available, another member of the School Leadership Team will be able to assist you.

If your concern is urgent, and you are unable to contact the Child Protection Coordinator, or another member of the School Leadership Team, you must contact **Social Care Direct**. This is the City of Edinburgh Council's Social Work duty team. Their number is **0131 200 2324**. You can also contact the **Police** if the child or young person is at immediate risk.

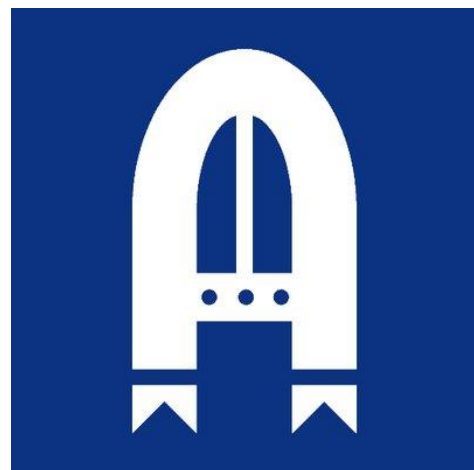
APPROPRIATE QUESTIONS

What happened?

When did it happen?

Where did it happen?

Who did it?




Zgłaszanie problemów związanych z ochroną dzieci i bezpieczeństwem

CZYM JEST OCHRONA DZIECI?

Ochrona dzieci to zapewnienie, że wszystkie dzieci i młodzież są bezpieczne i odpowiednio zaopiekowane.

CO ZROBIĆ, JEŚLI MASZ OBAWY LUB MARTWISZ SIĘ?

Jeśli martwisz się o dziecko lub młodą osobę w St Augustine's RC High School, poproś o rozmowę z naszym Koordynatorem ds. Ochrony Dzieci. Jest nim:

	<p>Robert McLauchlan Zastępca Dyrektora - Koordynator ds. Ochrony Dzieci</p>
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Jeśli nie jest dostępny, inny członek zespołu kierowniczego szkoły będzie mógł Ci pomóc.

Jeśli Twoje obawy są pilne, a nie możesz skontaktować się z Koordynatorem ds. Ochrony Dzieci lub innym członkiem zespołu kierowniczego szkoły, musisz skontaktować się z Social Care Direct. To zespół ds. opieki społecznej Rady Miasta Edynburga, który jest dostępny pod numerem 0131 200 2324. Możesz również skontaktować się z policją, jeśli dziecko lub młoda osoba jest w bezpośrednim zagrożeniu.

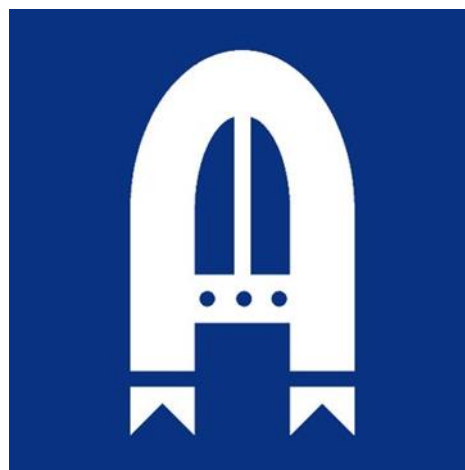
ODPOWIEDNIE PYTANIA

Co się stało?

Kiedy to się stało?

Gdzie to się stało?

Kto to zrobił?






Plantear una Preocupación sobre la Protección y Seguridad de los Niños

QUÉ ES LA PROTECCIÓN INFANTIL?

La Protección Infantil se trata de asegurar que todos los niños y jóvenes estén seguros y bien cuidados.

QUÉ HACER SI TIENE PREOCUPACIONES O ESTÁ INQUIETO?

Si le preocupa un niño o joven en St Augustine's RC High School, solicite hablar con nuestro Coordinador de Protección Infantil. Él es:

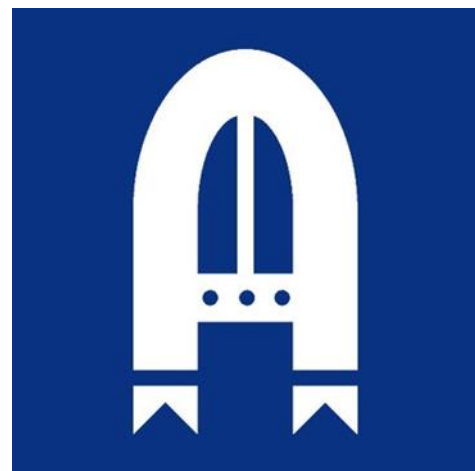
	<p>Robert McLauchlan Subdirector - Coordinador de Protección Infantil</p>
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Si él no está disponible, otro miembro del equipo de liderazgo de la escuela podrá asistirle.

Si su preocupación es urgente y no puede ponerse en contacto con el Coordinador de Protección Infantil o con otro miembro del equipo de liderazgo de la escuela, debe comunicarse con Social Care Direct. Este es el equipo de trabajo social de guardia del Ayuntamiento de Edimburgo. Su número es 0131 200 2324. También puede contactar a la policía si el niño o joven está en riesgo inmediato.

PREGUNTAS ADECUADAS

- ¿Qué pasó?
- ¿Cuándo sucedió?
- ¿Dónde sucedió?
- ¿Quién lo hizo?





শিশু সুরক্ষা এবং নিরাপত্তা নিয়ে উদ্বেগ উত্থাপন

শিশু সুরক্ষা কী?

শিশু সুরক্ষা হল নিশ্চিত করা যে সমস্ত শিশু এবং যুবকরা নিরাপদ এবং ভালোভাবে যত্ন নেওয়া হয়েছে।

আপনার যদি উদ্বেগ থাকে বা আপনি চিন্তিত হন তবে কী করবেন

যদি আপনি St Augustine's RC High School-এ কোনো শিশু বা যুবকের বিষয়ে উদ্বেগ হন, তবে আমাদের শিশু সুরক্ষা সমন্বয়কারীর সাথে কথা বলার জন্য অনুরোধ করুন। তিনি হলেন:

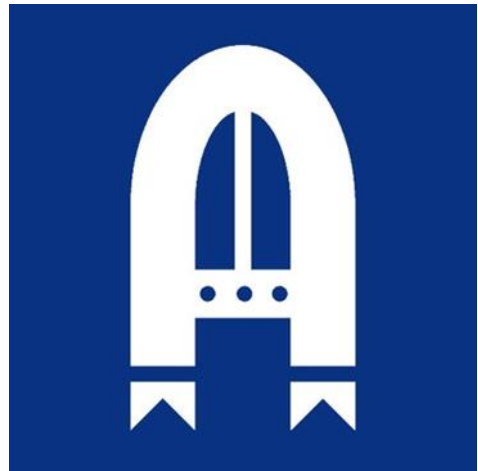


যদি তিনি উপলব্ধ না থাকেন, তবে স্কুল নেতৃত্বের দলের অন্য একজন সদস্য আপনাকে সাহায্য করতে পারবেন।

যদি আপনার উদ্বেগ জরুরি হয় এবং আপনি শিশু সুরক্ষা সমন্বয়কারী বা স্কুল নেতৃত্বের দলের অন্য কোনো সদস্যের সাথে যোগাযোগ করতে না পারেন, তবে আপনাকে Social Care Direct-এর সাথে যোগাযোগ করতে হবে। এটি এডিনবার্গ সিটি কাউন্সিলের সোশ্যাল ওয়ার্ক ডিউটি টিম। তাদের নম্বর হল 0131 200 2324। যদি শিশু বা যুবক তাত্ক্ষণিক ঝুঁকিতে থাকে, তবে আপনি পুলিশকেও যোগাযোগ করতে পারেন।

উপযুক্ত প্রশ্ন

কি ঘটেছিল?
কখন এটি ঘটেছিল?
কোথায় এটি ঘটেছিল?
এটি কে করেছে?



إثارة القلق بشأن حماية الطفل وسلامته

ما هي حماية الطفل؟

حماية الطفل تتعلق بضمان أن جميع الأطفال والشباب في أمان ويتلقون الرعاية الجيدة.

ماذا تفعل إذا كانت لديك مخاوف أو كنت قلقًا؟

إذا كنت قلقًا بشأن طفل أو شاب في مدرسة سانت أوغستين الثانوية الكاثوليكية، يرجى طلب التحدث إلى منسق حماية الطفل لدينا. هو:

	<p>Robert McLauchlan المدير - منسق حماية الطفل</p>
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إذا لم يكن متاحًا، سيتمكن عضو آخر من فريق القيادة المدرسية من مساعدتك

إذا كانت مخاوفك عاجلة ولم تتمكن من الاتصال بمنسق حماية الطفل أو بعضو آخر من فريق القيادة المدرسية، يجب هذا هو فريق العمل الاجتماعي لمجلس (Social Care Direct) عليك الاتصال بخدمة الرعاية الاجتماعية المباشرة مدينة إدنبرة. رقمهم هو 0131 200 2324. يمكنك أيضًا الاتصال بالشرطة إذا كان الطفل أو الشاب في خطر فوري

الأسئلة المناسبة

ماذا حدث؟

متى حدث ذلك؟

أين حدث ذلك؟

من فعل ذلك؟

