

# Ysgol Uwchradd Bodedern



## Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

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This policy is reviewed annually

## 1. Introduction

Ysgol Uwchradd Bodedern fully acknowledges its responsibilities towards Child Protection and Safeguarding.

Our policy is relevant to all staff, governors and to volunteers who work with children. Children can disclose abuse in the first instance to classroom assistants, mid-day supervisors, carers, secretaries as well as teachers.

There are five elements to our policy:

- To ensure that we implement safe recruitment practices by checking staff and volunteers' suitability to work with children.
- To raise awareness of child protection issues and to arm children with the skills needed to keep them safe.
- Ensure all members of staff receive regular Child Safeguarding training on the correct level and develop and implement procedures to identify and refer cases or concerns of abuse.
- Support children who have been abused according to the agreed protection plan.
- Establish a safe environment where the pupils can learn and develop.

## 2. Prevention

We acknowledge that the school staff, because of their daily contact with pupils, are in a good position to observe the external signs of abuse. We acknowledge that a high level of self-respect, confidence, supportive friends and good lines of communication with a dependable adult helps to protect pupils.

The school will therefore:

- establish and maintain an environment where the pupils will feel safe, where they will be encouraged to express themselves, and where they will be listened to.
- ensure that the pupils know that there are adults in the school that they can turn to if they are concerned.
- include opportunities in the curriculum for pupils to develop the skills they need to identify and keep safe from abuse.
- include opportunities in the curriculum to help children develop a realistic attitude towards adult responsibilities, in particular regarding child care and parenting skills.

## 3. Procedures

The school will follow the procedures set in the document "All Wales Child Protection Procedures 2008", which have been adopted by the Local Safeguarding Children Board, and pay attention to the guidelines published by the Welsh Assembly Government, in order to:

- ensure that we have a designated child protection teacher (a member of the senior leadership team) and a deputy designated person who has received regular training and support.
- ensure that we have a nominated governor for child protection.
- ensure that every member of staff, every governor and every volunteer knows the name of the designated child protection teacher.
- ensure that all staff and volunteers understand their responsibility to refer concerns to the designated child protection teacher.
- acknowledge the right of every member of staff and volunteers to "raise the alarm" by including clear references to the procedure in training and in the school's documentation.

- ensure that parents are aware of the responsibility of the school and staff in the field of child protection by including those implications in the school prospectus.
- provide staff training to ensure that all staff members are:
  - aware of personal responsibility
  - the local procedures agreed upon
  - be alert to cases of abuse
  - how to support a pupil who disclose abuse
- know how to contact the local social services team:
  - if a pupil on the child protection register is excluded from school on a fixed or permanent basis
  - if a pupil on the child protection register is absent from school for more than two days without explanation (or one day following a weekend).
- develop effective links with the relevant agencies and co-operate as necessary with their child protection enquiries, including being present in the initial assessment, in child protection case conferences, core group meetings and presenting a written report.
- keep written records of concerns about children (including the date, the incident and the steps taken) even where there is no reason to refer the matter straight away.
- ensure that the records are kept under lock and key.
- ensure that safe recruiting practices as stated in the Welsh Government guidelines “Safeguarding Children in Education” are followed at all times.

#### **4. Supporting an ‘at-risk’ pupil**

We acknowledge that pupils who have been abused or who have been witnesses to abuse may find it difficult to develop a sense of self-worth. They may feel hopeless, ashamed or that they are to blame. School can be the only stable element in the child’s life. When at school, the pupil’s behaviour may be defiant or introverted. The school will attempt to support the pupil through:

- the content of the curriculum to promote self-respect and self-motivation;
- the whole school ethos
  - which promotes a safe, supportive and positive environment,
  - where the pupil is respected as an individual;
- the school behavior policy which aims to support children in danger;
- ensuring that the pupil knows that some types of behaviour are unacceptable but also that they are appreciated and that they are not to blame for any abuse.
- maintaining links with other agencies which provide support for the pupil e.g. Social Services, CAMHS, Education Psychology Service, Behaviour Support Service, Education Welfare Service and the Advocacy Service.
- keeping records and notifying the Social Services when concern is raised.
- When a Pupil on the Child Protection Register leaves, we will ensure that information is transferred immediately to the new school and that the child’s social worker is notified.

#### **5. The following should be considered with this Policy:**

- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Radicalisation Policy
- Responding to work and behavior Policy
- Sex and relationship education Policy
- Substances Misuse Policy

A report on Safeguarding Children is presented to the Full Governing Body and the Local Education Authority annually.