

PASTORAL CARE

The quality of our pastoral care influences the ethos and atmosphere of the whole school. We are continually striving to create an environment where everyone in the school community feel valued and treated with respect. Implicit in this is the encouragement of each pupil to develop an understanding of the skills for life and learning. St Joseph's has a strong Year Head Team and a very effective Form Teacher system. The school will continue to monitor its provision to meet the changing needs of our pupils and society. Pastoral Care Planning is in line with the school's aims and DENI guidelines.

Achievement for all

The school fosters the ideal of 'Achievement for all' and through its curriculum policy, aims to enhance the spiritual, moral, cultural, intellectual and physical development of pupils at the school. By doing so, the school hopes to enable each pupil to contribute in a meaningful way to society and be prepared to undertake a fulfilling and rewarding role in life. This will include having the skills necessary for life long learning and the qualities to become a responsible citizen in the 21st century.

In St. Joseph's, we believe that the fostering of trust and good relationships with the Parents/Carers of our pupils is very important. A close partnership between home and school should help to ensure that all our young people learn and develop their full potential in a caring, supportive and safe environment. Good communication is essential if we are to achieve this.

If you have any concerns about any aspect of your son's education, please contact the school and an appointment will be arranged for you to meet with the relevant member of staff. Eg

- Form Teacher
- Year Head
- Head of school
- Vice Principals
- Principal

We would also encourage you to attend the yearly Parent Teacher Meetings.

This leaflet is intended as a summary of Child Protection in St. Joseph's Boys' School. More detailed policies are available on request: e.g.

- Child Protection
- Bullying
- Drugs
- Critical Incidents

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St. Joseph's Boys' School

Pastoral Information for Parents

Child Protection



Principal: Mr D Harkin

Since the opening of St. Joseph's Boys' School in 1960. There has been a strong and sustained tradition of caring for our pupils in the various stages of their academic, spiritual, personal and social development.



St. Joseph's Boys' School aims to:

- Develop as an individual who aspires to reach his full potential within society.
- Develop skills, abilities and attitudes, relevant to and necessary for life long learning.
- Learn to work in partnership with others and to develop the following core skills:

Communication	Numeracy
Literacy	Teamwork
Problem Solving	Decision making
Whole person thinking	ICT

- Learn to explore and evaluate his environment in order to develop ways to improve the quality of life.
- Evolve a value system to live by through the relationship between God, himself and others.

Child Protection

A Child Protection Policy operates in St. Joseph's Boys' School. Its aim is to protect our pupils by ensuring that everyone who works in St. Joseph's (teachers, non-teaching staff, substitute teachers, etc) has clear guidance on what to do if child abuse or neglect is suspected and what the procedures are for reporting it.

The overriding concern of all adults connected with St. Joseph's must be the care, welfare and safety of the child, and the welfare of each child is our paramount importance.

In all their contact with pupils, staff in St. Joseph's Boys' School follow the guidelines and procedures described in the DENI publication "*Pastoral Care in School—Child Protection*" (1999).

All policies or published documents in relation to the school will be available to parents who may forward these requests in writing, to the Principal. These may be collected from the school office during working hours.

Summary for Parents / Carers

Parent has concern about child's Safety



Talk to the Class / Form Teacher



If still concerned, talk to the Designated Teacher (Mrs M Mc Carron) or the Deputy Designated Teacher. (Mrs C Deane) or the Principal (Mr D Harkin)



If still concerned, talk to or write to the Chair of Board Of Governors (Mrs S McIntyre)



If still concerned contact the NI Public Services Ombudsman (Tel: 0800343424)



At any time you can talk to the local Children's Services Gateway Team or the PSNI Central Referral Unit at Tel: (02890 259299)



It should be noted that information given to members of staff in St. Joseph's about possible child abuse cannot be held "in confidence". In the interests of the child, this information has to be shared with other professionals. However, only those who need to know will be told.