



Riverbank Nursery Child Protection Policy

- If any Teacher, Early Years Practitioner or Support Assistant suspects that a child, in his/her care, may be a victim of abuse, they must immediately inform the named person about their concerns. The named person in Riverbank School is

Mrs Susan Ironside - Head Teacher

If the Head Teacher is not available they should inform a member of the Senior Management Team.

Categories of Child Abuse:

- Physical Injury
 - actual or attempted physical injury including the administration of toxic substances and injuries not prevented by a carer
- Physical Neglect
 - when a child's essential needs are not met and this is likely to cause impairment to physical health and development e.g. child denied food, sleep, clothing, cleanliness, shelter, warmth, access to appropriate health care or medical treatment. Left unattended or inadequately supervised

- Emotional Abuse / Emotional Neglect
 - persistent emotional ill treatment of a child affecting the child's emotional development e.g. coldness, hostility, criticism, inappropriate punishments, isolation, scapegoating, ignoring, corrupting, terrorising. Wilful destruction of a child's confidence

- Sexual Abuse
 - Involves forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities whether or not the child is aware of what is happening.
It may involve physical contact including penetrative and non-penetrative acts. It may also involve children looking at or being involved in the production of pornographic material or threatened, coercion or grooming

- Non-Organic Failure to Thrive
 - failure to meet expected weight and growth norms or developmental milestones. Malnutrition, lack of nurturing and stimulation

- The action taken by the named person will be in line with the procedures outlined in the ACC Child Protection Guidelines.
- Should the Head Teacher or any other member of the Senior Management Team not be present in school, the number for the Social Work Department can be found in the NESPC Folder in the school office.

- **Joint Child Protection Unit**
01224 306879 or 01224 306877
- **Out of Hours 01224 693936**
- **Police Scotland 101**
- Record am/pm statutory attendance in SEEMIS no later than 9:30am and within 30 minutes of the afternoon session
- Record LAC and Child Protection status accurately (they are distinct)
- The School's named co-ordinator will work closely with the Social Services Dept when investigating any allegations of abuse. All cases are investigated in a sensitive manner with the interest of the child being paramount.
- If a child alleges abuse, the School can make a referral without communicating with the parents first, if it is deemed to be in the best interest of the child
- We regard all information relating to individual child protection issues as confidential and we treat this accordingly. We will only pass on information to appropriate persons. The child will be given information appropriate to their level of understanding.
- It is an Authority requirement that **all** adults working with children in the Nursery/School have to complete a "PVG" form [Protecting Vulnerable Groups] to ensure that there is no evidence of offences involving children or abuse. Staff are selected and recruited according to ACC procedure

