Malone Integrated College Safeguarding Information

Principal
Mrs A Leslie

Chairperson Board of Governors
Mr S Leonard

School Year
2026-2027



Mr P. Cassidy
Designated Teacher



Ms N. Cuffe
Deputy Designated Teacher



Mr E. Fulton
Deputy Designated Teacher



Mrs D. Hamilton
Deputy Designated Teacher

Introduction

This guide provides a summary of our safeguarding & child protection policy. The full policy document is available on request from the school office and also on the school website.

All adults - teaching staff, support staff and volunteers in Malone College accept that they have the primary responsibility for the care, welfare and safety of our pupils.

No concern about the welfare of any child will be ignored by staff in Malone Integrated College. In school it is of paramount importance that pupils feel safe, secure and happy in their environment.

Malone Integrated College recognises the importance of a partnership between home and school but where issues of child abuse or suspected child abuse arise, our first responsibility is to the young person.

As part of our ongoing work in the area of Child Protection we will endeavour to raise the children's awareness about themselves and to develop a trusting climate in which our young people feel able to talk and share their thoughts and feelings.

THE SAFEGUARDING TEAM AT MALONE INTEGRATED COLLEGE

Chair of Governors: Mr S Leonard

Principal : Mrs A. Leslie

Designated Governor: Mr B. Armstrong

Designated Teacher: Mr P. Cassidy

Deputy Designated Teachers: Mr E. Fulton, Ms N. Cuffe or Mrs D. Hamilton

What is Child abuse?

'Child abuse occurs when a child is neglected, harmed or not provided with proper care. Children may be abused in many settings, by those known to them, or more rarely by a stranger. There are different types of abuse and a child may suffer more than one of them…' SBNI Policy and Procedures

Categories of Child abuse

Physical Abuse is deliberately physically hurting a child. It might take a variety of different forms including hitting, bitting, pinching, shaking, throwing, poisoning, scalding, drowning or suffocating a child.

Sexual Abuse occurs when others use and exploit children sexually for their own gratification or gain the gratification of others. Sexual abuse may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example, rape or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing or touching outside clothing. It may include non contact activities such as the production of sexual images, forcing children to look at sexual images or sexual activities.

Emotional Abuse is the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child. It can have severe adverse effects on a child';s emotional development. Emotional abuse may involve bullying including online bullying via social media networks, online games or mobile phones.

Neglect is the failure to provide for a child's basic needs, whether it be adequate food, clothing, hygiene, supervision or shelter that is likely to result in the serious impairment of a child's health or development.

Exploitation is the intentional ill-treatment, manipulation or abuse of power and control over young person for personal gain. It may be child labour, slavery, servitude, criminal activity, begging or child trafficking. Exploitation may be sexual in nature.

Procedures

All staff at Malone Integrated College will ensure that all pupil are aware of who they can talk to if they are sad, worried, being bullied or have any other concerns.

DENI requires all those working in education to cooperate fully with Social Services and other agencies to protect children. It is therefore our duty to complete a referral if there is a concern of any form of abuse.

Disclosures/Concerns regarding Abuse or Neglect

Member of staff competes note of concern on what has been shared or observed and met **ACT IMMEDIATELY** (written record to be kept)

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Staff member discusses concern with Designated Teacher (Mr P Cassidy) or Deputy Designated Teachers (Mr E Fulton, Miss N Cuffe or Mrs D Hamilton)

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Principal (Mrs A Leslie) informed. Plan of action agreed and referral decision taken

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School to continue to offer support as appropriate

It should be noted that information given to members of staff about possible child abuse cannot be held 'in confidence'. In the interests of the young person they may need to share this with other professionals. However, only those who need to be told.

How can a Parent/Carer raise a safeguarding concern?

I have a concern about my/a child's safety

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I can talk to the class teacher in school

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If I am still concerned I can talk to the Designated Teacher for Child Protection Mr P Cassidy or Deputy Designated Teachers Mr E Fulton, Miss N Cuffe or Mrs D Hamilton)

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If I am still concerned I can talk to the Principal (Mrs A Leslie)

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If I am still concerned I can talk/write to the chairperson of the BOG Mr S Leonard

At anytime, I can talk to a social worker in Gateway services. Contact numbers on the next page.

Details of procedures where a complaint has been made possible abuse by a member of school staff are in the full policy document

A copy of the school's child protection arrangements will be maintained and circulated every two years.

Designated Governor for Child Protection: Mr B Armstrong

Single contact for Children's services referral

Gateway Belfast: 02890507000

Gateway South East: 0300 100 0300

Out of hours emergency: 02895049999

NSPCC: 08088005000

Childline: 08001111

REMEMBER if you have ANY issues regarding the safety or well being of any child in our school, please **DO NOT** hesitate to contact Mr Cassidy immediately

THE SAFETY AND WELL BEING OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE IN OUR CARE IS OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE

Malone Integrated College