

**If you do not feel you can speak with the School directly, there are other options:**

• [Bolton Children's Services - 01204 331500](#)

• [The Police - 999 or 101](#)

• [NSPCC - 0808 800 5000](#)

[Text 88858](#)

[Nspcc.org.uk](#)

[help@nspcc.org.uk](#)

**Types of abuse:**

- Neglect
- Domestic Violence/abuse
- Emotional abuse
- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Online abuse
- Grooming
- Child exploitation
- Female genital mutilation

There is further information about these in our Safeguarding Policy on the school website

[www.stethelberts.stoccat.org.uk](http://www.stethelberts.stoccat.org.uk)

Some of these types of abuse may result in an immediate referral to Children's Services, without informing parents or carers, in order to protect the child. This is done following strict protocol from Bolton Children's Services.

## Early Help

Early Help is a way of bringing workers together to work with children and their families when they need extra support. This could be for any reason including:

- Health
- Education
- Parenting
- emotional well-being
- finance
- housing

Support can be delivered from a wide range of services depending on what is needed; services already working with the family might offer additional help or requests for support could be made to specialist and targeted services. All services in Bolton are signed up to using the Early Help process.

Early Help is for children of all ages up to age 18 – as soon as problems start to stop things from getting worse. Parents can ask for Early Help, or a worker that is already involved with a family may suggest that Early Help support might be needed.

If you feel you need support, then please make an appointment to meet with [Miss Postlewaite \(Tuesday-Thursday\)](#).



## Safeguarding at St. Ethelbert's RCP

## Information for Parents



## Safeguarding at St. Ethelbert's

This leaflet gives some information about safeguarding at St. Ethelbert's. (Further information can be found in our Safeguarding Policy on the school website)

The safety and wellbeing of our children is paramount and we will do all that we can to ensure that their time at St. Ethelbert's is as happy and healthy as possible. We aim to create and maintain a safe learning environment where all children and adults feel safe, secure and valued and know they will be listened to and taken seriously.

Our school is committed to the principles outlined in 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' and implements policies, practices and procedures which promote safeguarding and the emotional and physical wellbeing of children and staff.

The children have access to appropriate curriculum opportunities, including emotional health and well-being, to support the development of the skills needed to help them stay safe and healthy, develop their self-esteem and understand the responsibilities of adult life.

The school works closely with a range of outside agencies to ensure that we provide our children and families with the appropriate support that they require to live safe and healthy lives.

**We will always do what we believe to be in the best interest of the child to ensure their health and safety.**

## Who do I talk to?

Our Safeguarding Policy tells people what to do if they think a child may be suffering abuse or neglect.

The staff at school are all trained in Safeguarding and learn the signs of abuse/neglect. Also, the school has a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) as well as three Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSLs).

At St. Ethelbert's, they are:

### Designated Safeguarding Lead:

**Mrs Messham**

### Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads:

**Mrs Turner**

**Miss Murphy**

**Miss Postlewaite**

### Governor for Safeguarding:

**Mrs Baxendale**

If you are concerned about the welfare of a child who comes to St. Ethelbert's, you have a duty to report those concerns and safeguard the child. You are not expected to make any judgements on whether it is abuse or not. The Designated Safeguarding Leads carry out intensive training along with social workers, police and medical staff. It is the role of the DSL to decide if child abuse is a consideration or if the information received can be held on file.

## What if the school has concerns?

The school has a duty of care to your child; we are bound by statutory law and must act on any concerns.

- The concern will be logged on our online recording system, CPOMS

- The Designated Safeguarding Leads will assess the risk
- We will talk to you about the concern if, in doing so, it will not or may not, put the child at risk
- School may offer some support or strategies - for example, suggesting a visit to the GP
- The school might also refer you to an external agency, such as the School Nurse; Speech & Language Therapy; CAMHS; Educational Psychologist; Bolton Behaviour Support; Mental Health Support Team
- The DSL might ring the Integrated Front Door service at Bolton Children's Services for advice. If the matter is urgent, a direct referral will be made to Social Care and/or the Police might be contacted

## Social Care Involvement

- In most cases, the social worker might have a telephone conversation with you to discuss the nature of the referral and any next steps. If the social worker is reassured, then the case will be closed.
- Sometimes an assessment is required and will usually involve a visit to the family home and an interview with your child
- If it is determined that your child is not 'in need', the case will be closed.
- If it is determined that your child is 'in need' then Children's Services will continue to be involved and will draw up a plan to support the family.
- **Everything we do is in the best interests of your child. We will address any concerns that we have, so please try to be understanding of this. It is our statutory duty and we take the safety & well-being of all our children very seriously.**