

## We adhere to the Isle of Man Safeguarding Children's Board Procedures.

Rushen Primary School has a duty to ensure arrangements are in place for safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of children.

We recognise that all members of the school community, including volunteers and Governors, will at all times play a full and active part in protecting our children from harm.

The following policies are linked to the information contained in this leaflet:

Safeguarding and Child Protection, Health & Safety, Anti-Bullying, e-Safety.

### Useful Contacts

Talk to the Headteacher/Designated Safeguarding Lead at school if you are worried about a safeguarding or child protection concern.

### Designated Staff Members

The designated members of staff keep child protection information and records securely, pass on concerns to the relevant authorities and liaise with social workers. These staff are:

- **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)**  
Ms Owens (Headteacher)
- **Deputy Safeguarding Lead (DDSL)**  
Miss Wardman (Deputy Headteacher)

If the DSL/DDSL are unavailable, please speak to the senior leader on site.

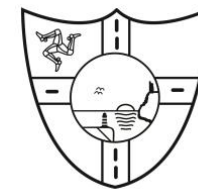
### DESC Safeguarding & Child Protection Officer

The Child Protection and Safeguarding Officer at the Department of Education, Sport & Culture is Gráinne Burns.

### Isle of Man Safeguarding Children's Board

More information about safeguarding children can be obtained from the Isle of Man Safeguarding Children's Board website at: <http://www.isleofmanscb.im>

# Rushen Primary School



## SAFEGUARDING & CHILD PROTECTION INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

This leaflet outlines how we, as a school and a community, intend to keep our children safe.



## Keeping Children Safe in School

A child should be able to go to school and feel safe from harm or abuse. School will help a child learn about keeping themselves safe. Lessons in school can cover road safety, anti-bullying, relationships, age-appropriate sex and relationships education, drug and alcohol awareness, healthy eating and any other area that could impact on a young person's safety.

Children will be told what to do and who they can talk to, if they are worried or concerned about anything raised in these lessons which may include what is happening to them at home or in the community.

Everyone employed in a school will be vetted, and staff and volunteers will be trained in how to identify abuse, and what must be done if they or someone else is worried about a child. The teachers who have responsibility for dealing with child protection in a school are known as Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL).

All schools have policies and procedures outlining how everyone - adults and children, should behave and what the consequences may be of not adhering to the policies. This includes the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy. It explains the actions that must be taken if you are worried or concerned about a child. This will include that concerns are recorded and how they might be reported to social services or the police.

School staff will listen to, and work closely with parents to make sure their child feels safe and protected in school.

## Keeping Children Safe From Harm

Proactive safeguarding is clearly outlined in the policies and procedures of the school and tells everyone how they should behave to keep everyone safe. Child Protection is the **duty** we have to act if we are concerned that a child is being harmed.

Everybody has a responsibility to keep children under 18 years of age safe from harm and abuse. Harm and/or abuse is identified in four ways:

**Neglect** means that a child is not being properly taken care of by their parents or carers. This could be about poor hygiene or poor diet, ill-fitting/unwashed clothing, being left alone at home, not being taken to appointments or not being sent to school.

**Physical Abuse** is where someone deliberately hurts, hits or injures a child.

**Emotional Abuse** is where someone shouts at, uses threats or makes fun of a child to make the child feel frightened, worthless or unloved. A child seeing violence between parents or other people in their home can also be very harmful.

**Sexual Abuse** is where someone influences, involves or forces a child to look at or take part in sexual activities. This could include encouraging unwanted touching, involving a child in watching pornography or forcing a child or young person under the age of consent to have sex.

Young people may experience any of the above from adults and sometimes their peers. Abuse is increasingly being conducted online.

## Parents/Carers Keeping Children Safe

As a parent you are the most important person in keeping your child safe. Children are only in school for a small proportion of their day, so schools cannot know everything about your child's life.

As a parent you should:

- Talk to the school if you need help or support. Feel confident about raising any concerns you have in relation to your child.
- Read our School's policies for Child Protection & Safeguarding, e-safety, Anti-bullying and Behaviour for Learning.
- Inform the school if your child has any medical conditions or educational needs. We recognise these needs may change throughout the school year.
- Make the school aware of any Court Orders relating to your protection or your child's protection. This ensures school is vigilant in managing the safety of your child.
- Inform the school if there is any change in your child's circumstances for example; change of address, change of name, change of parental responsibility.

Parents should tell the class teacher if there are any changes to arrangements about who brings their child to, and collects their child from school. You have a statutory duty to ensure your child attends school. Parents should contact the school if their child is absent. This assures the school that you know about the absence. Parents are able to check their child's attendance by logging into your Arbor account.