



Child on Child Abuse Policy

"Everyone who works with children should do what is in the best interests of the child."
Article 3 United Nations Rights of the Child

This policy is to be used in conjunction with the guidelines issued by The Children, Young People, Education and Skills Department (CYPES). This policy is to be used in conjunction with the following school policies and Government of Jersey guidance documents:

- Child Protection Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Keeping Children Safe in Education

<https://www.gov.je/SiteCollectionDocuments/Education/P%20Keeping%20Children%20Safe%20in%20Education%2020231025DP.pdf>

Aims

At Trinity School we aim to ensure that all members of staff are clear about the actions required with regard to child protection issues.

This policy has been produced to:

- raise the awareness of all staff and identify responsibility in reporting possible cases of child on child abuse
- lay down the correct procedures for those who encounter an issue of child protection relating to child on child abuse
- ensure effective communication between all staff when dealing with child protection issues

Principles

We believe that:

- the health, safety and well-being of all our children are of paramount importance
- children have a right to be safe in our school and to be protected regardless of age, gender, race, culture or disability
- children are treated with respect at Trinity School
- we foster an atmosphere that encourages all children to do their best
- we provide opportunities that enable our children to take and make decisions for themselves
- our teaching of Personal, Social and Health Education, as part of the school's curriculum, helps to develop appropriate attitudes in our children and makes them aware of the impact of their decisions on others. It also teaches them how to recognise different risks in different situations, and how to behave in response to them

Procedures

- The Deputy Headteacher Sally Sleath (s.sleath@trinity.sch.je) is the designated person for Child Protection. In some circumstances, including her absence, this responsibility may be delegated to the Head teacher, Katy McMahon (k.mcmahon@trinity.sch.je) Emma O'Connell (Lead TA) is also a DSL (e.oconnell@trinity.sch.je) as is Sally-Ann Fillieul (s.fillieul@trinity.sch.je)
- All staff need to be alert to the signs of abuse as detailed in the Keeping Children Safe in Education (September 2024, Government of Jersey):
[P Keeping Children Safe in Education 20241007DP.pdf](#)

If staff suspect that a child may be a victim of child-on-child abuse, they **immediately** inform the designated person about their concerns. Abuse can be of a sexual, emotional or physical nature.

All staff should be clear as to the school's policy and procedures with regard to child-on-child abuse and the important role they have to play in preventing it. They should respond appropriately, within the school's child protection procedures, where they believe a child may be at risk from it.

All staff should understand that even if there are no reports in their schools or colleges it does not mean it is not happening, it may be the case that it is just not being reported.

Some of the above overlap with the school's behaviour policy. These links must be understood by all staff. An awareness of the potential for moving from behaviour to safeguarding must be considered when staff are investigating incidents within the behaviour policy.

Defining child on child abuse

Child-on-child abuse is abuse of any type between children. It can include:

- Bullying, including cyber-bullying, prejudice-based and discriminatory bullying
- Physical abuse (e.g. hitting, kicking, shaking, biting, hair-pulling, or any way of causing physical harm)
- Consensual and non-consensual sharing of nude and semi-nude images or videos (also known as 'sexting')
- Sexual harassment, sexual violence
- Upskirting (taking a picture under a person's clothing without their permission)
- Causing someone to engage in sexual activity without consent (e.g. forcing them to strip, touch themselves sexually, or engage in sexual activity with a third party)
- Abuse in intimate personal relationships between children
- Initiation/hazing violence and rituals

Sexual harassment is unwanted conduct of a sexual nature that can happen online and offline.

It can include:

- Sexual comments (e.g. telling sexual stories, making sexual remarks about clothes or appearance)
- Sexual jokes (e.g. sexualised so-called "banter"), or sexual taunting
- Physical behaviour (e.g. deliberately brushing against someone, lifting up someone's skirt, pulling someone's bra strap)
- Displaying pictures, photos or drawings of a sexual nature
- Online sexual harassment (e.g. sharing of nude and semi-nude images or videos, sharing of unwanted explicit content, sexualised online bullying, unwanted sexual comments and messages on social media, sexual exploitation, sexual coercion and threats)

Sexual violence is any of the following (as defined in the Sexual Offences Act 2003):

- Rape (sexual intercourse without consent)
- Assault by penetration (sexual penetration with a part of the body or anything else without consent)
- Sexual assault (intentional sexual touching of another person without their consent, e.g. grabbing someone's breasts or bottom)

- Causing someone to engage in sexual activity without consent

Consent is about having the freedom and the capacity to choose.

- Consent to sexual activity may be given to one sort of sexual activity but not another, or may be given with conditions
- Consent can be withdrawn at any time during sexual activity and each time activity occurs
- Someone consents to sexual activity only if they agree by choice and have the freedom and capacity to make that choice
- A child under the age of 13 can **never** consent to any sexual activity
- The age of consent (i.e. the legal age to have sex) is 16

Policy written & reviewed:

SS April 2024

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