

**St Michael & All Angels Primary School**  
**STATEMENT ON CHILD PROTECTION**

***Child Protection: Safeguarding children - Information for Parents***

This school takes seriously its responsibilities to protect and safeguard the welfare of the children entrusted to its care. The Head Teacher is the designated person for child protection issues, and there is a commitment to follow Leicestershire Area Child Protection Committee and DFE procedures. The children have a right to receive the highest possible standard of care and to be protected from abuse.

*Our school feels it is of the utmost importance to have good systems for protecting children and safeguarding their welfare, throughout all the activities which the school undertakes. This means that staff and volunteers must be alert to possible concerns about every pupil, and to report these in a proper fashion. The school has a safeguarding and child protection policy: parents may request a copy of this.*

*It is important for parents to be aware that:*

- *Staff and volunteers in the school have a duty to report concerns about a child, whether this means the child may be in need of additional support or help of some kind or whether it is thought that a child may have been abused or be at risk of abuse.*
- *There are four categories of abuse: physical, sexual, emotional, neglect.*
- *In some cases the school is obliged to refer children to children's social care staff, for children to be assessed for their needs or if an investigation into possible child abuse is required. In many cases there will already have been discussions between school staff and the parents of the child, and the situation and concerns will not be a surprise to the parents. However, parents may not be told that the school has referred their child to children's social care if it is thought that this might put the child at risk.*
- *Children's social care tries to carry out its enquiries in a sensitive fashion. It has to gather information and generally it can be open with parents about the steps being taken.*
- *If you think your child may have been abused you should contact the children's social care office. If you think the abuse may have happened in school, contact the Head Teacher, **Mr N Bardsley**, who is the Designated Senior Person for Child Protection. If you think your child has been hurt, arrange to visit your doctor. Comfort and reassure your child.*
- *If school staff need to express concerns about a child or refer a child to children's social care, it is understood that this can cause distress or anger for the child's parents.*

*For parents' enquiries please contact: **Mr Neil Bardsley - Head Teacher***

*Parents and relatives of pupils should note that any photographs or video film they take at school events are likely to contain images of other children whose parents will not have given permission for them to be filmed or photographed. Such images should not be circulated more widely than the family, ie they should just be for the family's use. Our advice is that any manipulation or distribution of images of children could result in prosecution.*