



'OPENING DOORS OF  
OPPORTUNITY TOGETHER'

# **SUMMARY OF OUR SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION POLICY**

UPDATED SEPTEMBER 2024



## **SUMMARY OF OUR SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION POLICY STATEMENT**

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

*Meadow Bridge Primary School aims to foster a safe, happy and caring environment where each child's personal development is nurtured.*

*Every child's educational journey is enhanced and their lives enriched through stimulating learning experiences.*

*Equal emphasis will be placed on pastoral care and on ensuring each individual reaches his or her academic potential, equipping them for the future.*

Meadow Bridge Primary School staff have a primary responsibility for the care, welfare, and safety of the pupils in our charge and we will carry out this duty through our Pastoral Care Policy which aims to provide a happy, caring, and safe environment (where a love of learning is fostered, and everyone is valued for their unique talents and individual abilities).

One way in which we seek to protect our pupils is by helping them learn about the risks of possible abuse, helping them to recognise unwelcome behaviour in others, and acquire the confidence and skills they need to keep themselves safe.

### **OUR FULL SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION POLICY IDENTIFIES THE ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE:**

- Safeguarding Team;
- Board of Governors;
- Chair of the Board of Governors;
- Designated Governor for Safeguarding / Child Protection;
- Principal;
- Designated Teacher for Safeguarding / Child Protection;
- Deputy Designated Teacher for Safeguarding / Child Protection;
- Parent/Carers.

Parents/Carers can view our full policy on our school website ([www.meadowbridge.org.uk](http://www.meadowbridge.org.uk)) *or they can request a copy from the school office.*

## **OUR SAFEGUARDING TEAM**

<b>The following are members of the school's Safeguarding Team:</b>	
- Designated Teacher	Mr A McCollum ( <i>Vice-Principal</i> )
- Deputy Designated Teacher	Ms R Stirling
- Chair of the Board of Governors	Miss J Townsley
- Designated Governor for Child Protection	Mr C Donnan
- SEND Co-ordinator	Miss J Wortley
- Principal	Mr D J Ball

### **THE TYPES OF ABUSE CHILDREN CAN SUFFER ARE:**

- Physical Abuse
- Emotional Abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual Abuse
- Exploitation
- Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)
- Grooming
- Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse
- Forced Marriage
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- E-Safety/Internet Abuse

### **PREVENTATIVE CURRICULUM**

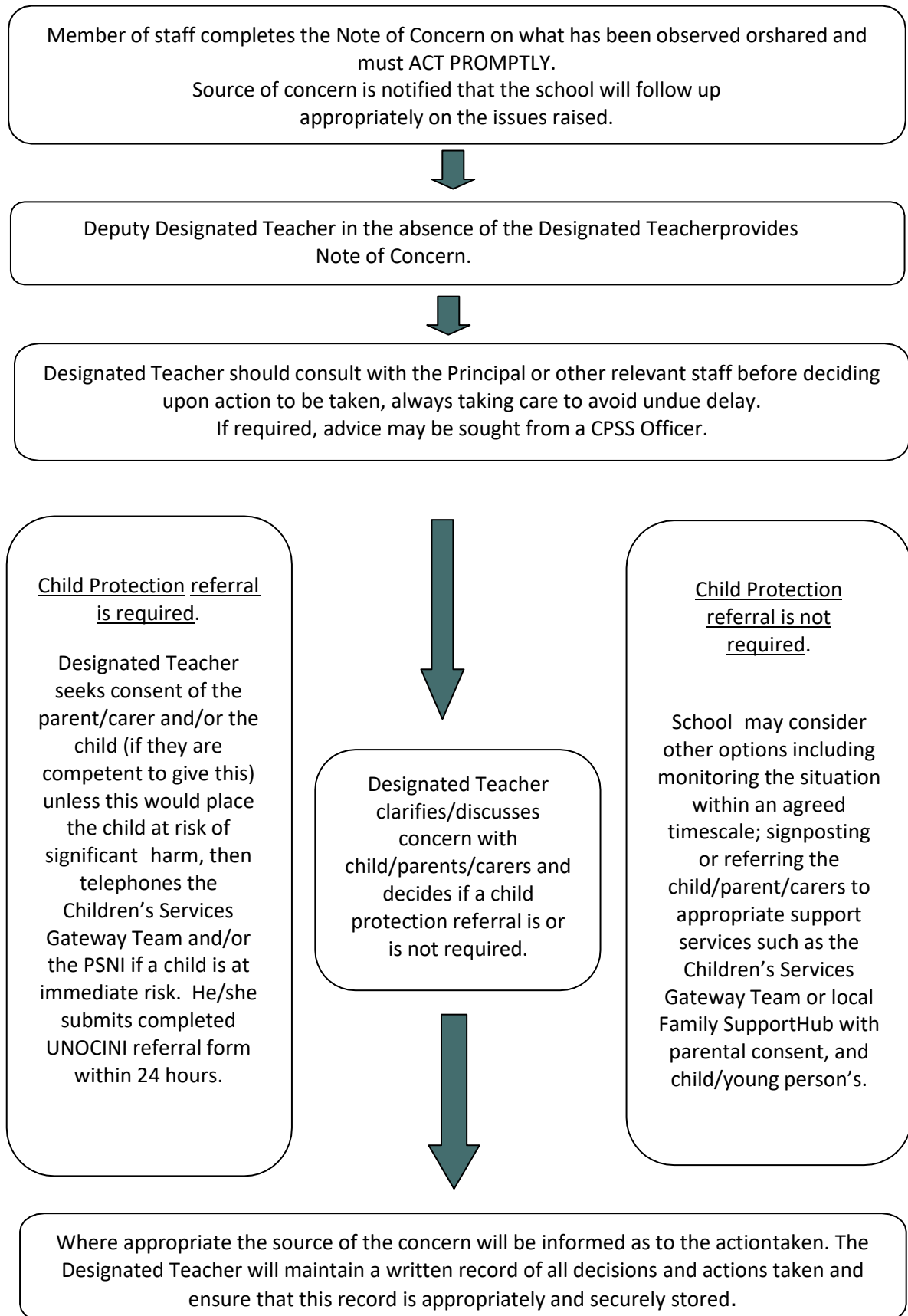
Throughout the school year, child protection issues are addressed through the delivery of the curricular area, Personal Development and Mutual Understanding (PDMU) and RSE. Important messages are also shared with pupils in Assembly and at times through the use of a variety of outside agencies.

**Figure 1** outlines procedures where the school has concerns, or has been given information, about possible abuse by someone other than a member of the school's staff.

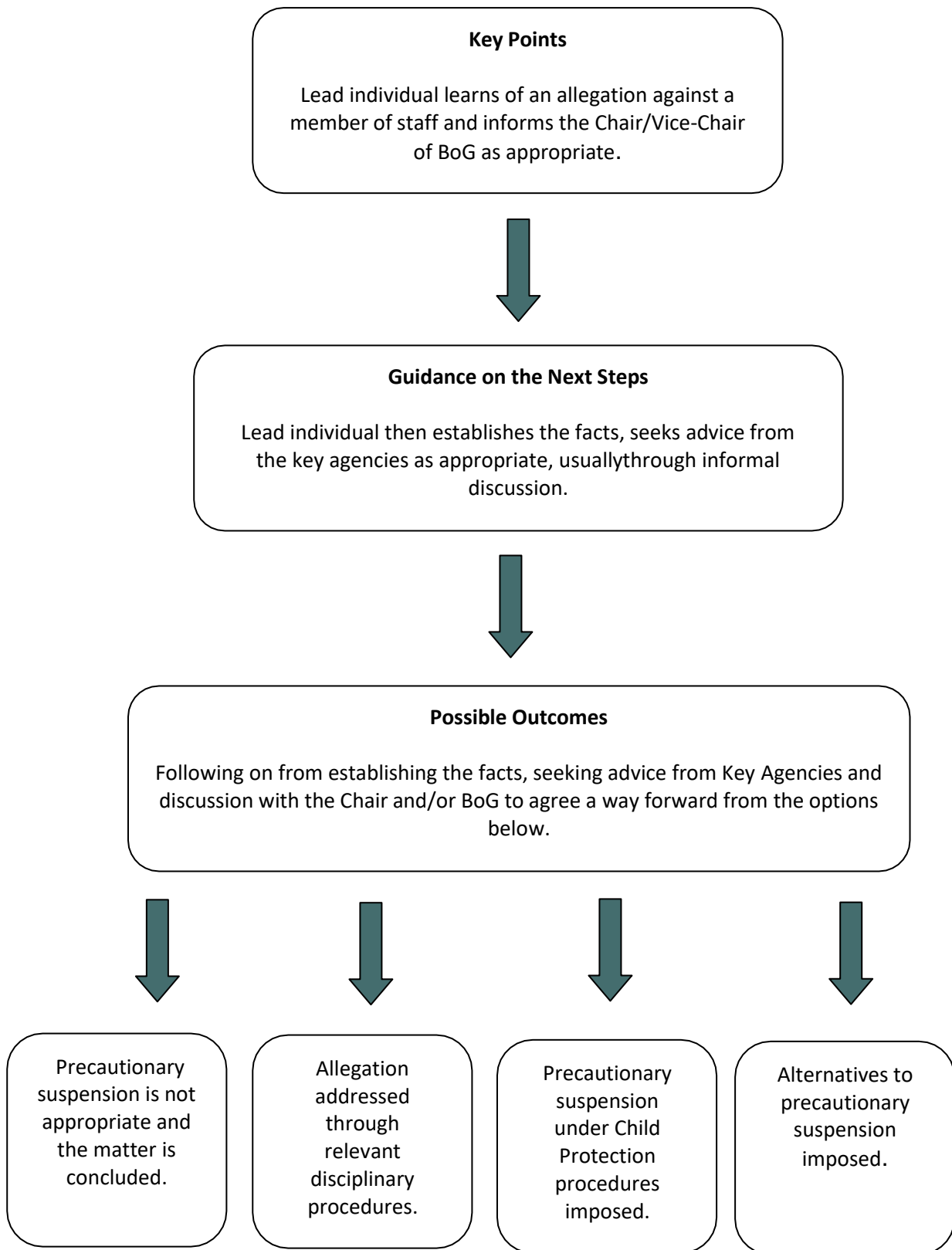
**Figure 2** outlines procedures where a complaint has been made about possible abuse by a member of the school's staff.

**Figure 3** outlines how a parent can contact school with a concern.

**Figure 1: Procedure where the school has concerns or has been given information about possible abuse by someone other than a member of staff.**

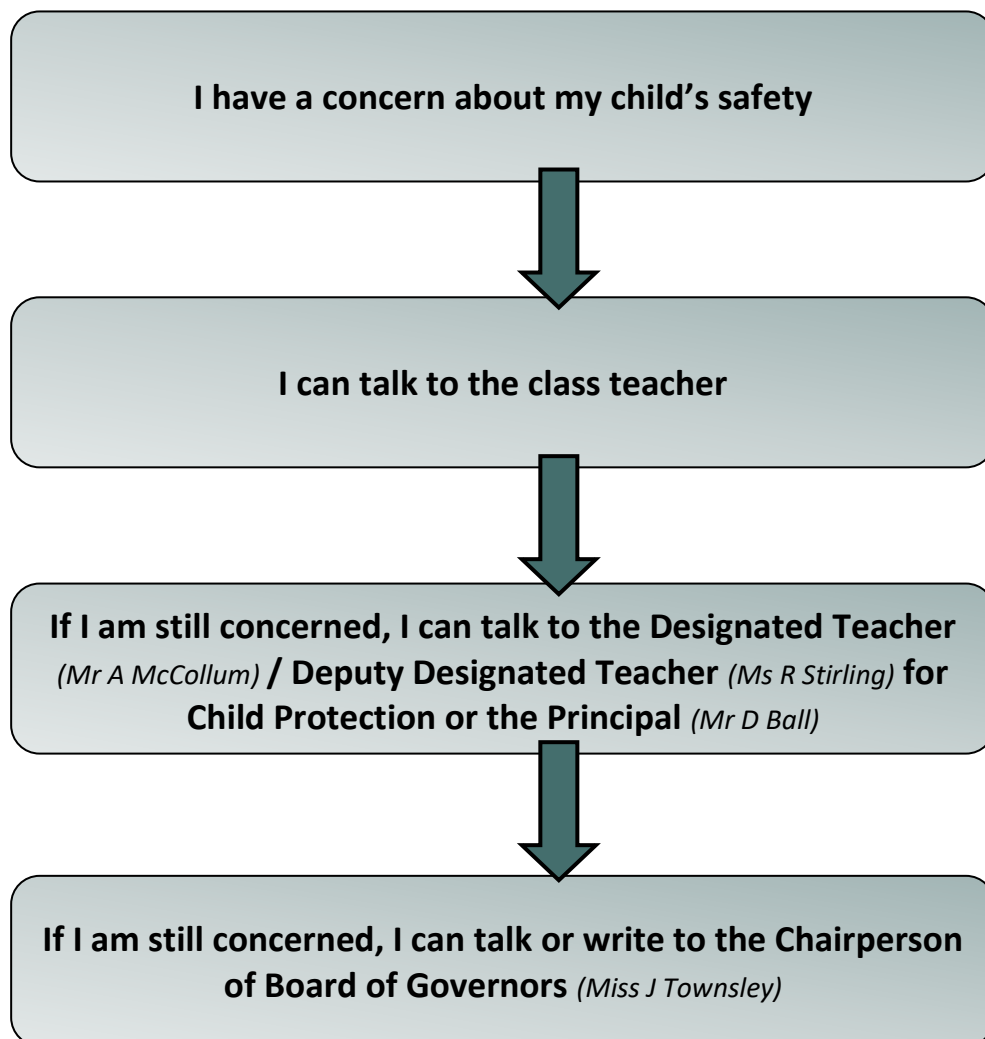


**Figure 2: Dealing with Allegations of Abuse Against a Member of Staff.**



**Figure 3: How a concerned parent can contact the school.**

How a concerned parent, guardian or visitor, can contact Meadow Bridge regarding any concerns about Safeguarding and Child Protection.



- At any time, you can refer to the Complaints Policy of Meadow Bridge Primary School which is accessible via the school's Website or Office. If feeling concerned at any stage in this process, you can contact the Northern Ireland Public Services Ombudsman (0800 343 424).
- At any time, you can talk to the local Children's Services Gateway Team (0300 1000 300) or the PSNI Central Referral Unit at [cru@psni.police.uk](mailto:cru@psni.police.uk)

**WHO CAN I SPEAK TO:**

<b>Chairperson of Board of Governors</b>	<b>Miss J Townsley</b>
<b>Principal</b>	<b>Mr D Ball</b>
<b>Designated Teacher/Vice-Principal</b>	<b>Mr A McCollum</b>
<b>Deputy Designated Teacher</b>	<b>Ms R Stirling</b>
<b>Designated Governor for Child Protection</b>	<b>Mr C Donnan</b>



If still concerned, you can contact the NI Public Services Ombudsman (0800 343 424).