



Established 1949

The Polish Saturday School in Manchester

Polska Szkoła Przedmiotów Ojczystych im. św. Stanisława Kostki w Manchesterze®

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Safeguarding - Policy Statement

The Polish Saturday School in Manchester recognises that it has a duty to safeguard the welfare of all children and young persons from harm and abuse whilst in its care by a commitment to practices that protects them. The overall intention and purpose behind the school's Child Safeguarding and Protection Policy is underpinned by the fundamental principle of the Children Act 1989 that '*the welfare of the child is paramount*'. Anyone under the age of 18 is considered to be a child or young person.

This policy is based on the following principles:

- The welfare of the child or young person is paramount.
- All children or young people, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious beliefs and/or sexual identity, have the right to protection from abuse.
- All suspicions and allegations of harm or abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
- All staff, volunteers and anyone working on behalf of the school has a duty to safeguard children and young people whilst under their care.
- All staff and volunteers have a responsibility to report concerns to the Designated Person with responsibility for child protection or the Head Teacher in their absence.
- Staff and volunteers are to be trained to understand the nature of abuse and to be alert to matters of concern.
- The school recognises that it does not have the responsibility to investigate cases of suspected child abuse. The school will refer and cooperate with the relevant statutory authorities in any matters regarding child protection.

We will seek to safeguard children and young persons by:

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them.
- Development and implementation of safeguarding policies and procedures including: child protection, health & safety policies, a code of conduct for staff/volunteers, staff and volunteer procedures.
- Ensure that all staff and volunteers are informed of their responsibilities to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young persons, and to be alert to the signs of abuse and the procedures for referring concerns.
- Sharing information about child protection and good practice with children, parents, staff and volunteers.
- Sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents and children appropriately.
- Carefully following the procedures for recruitment and selection of staff and volunteers.
- Providing effective management for volunteers through support, supervision and training.
- We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice regularly.

This policy statement should be read in conjunction with the following policies and procedures:

- Child Protection Policy.
- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Staff and Volunteer Policy
- Health & Safety Policy
- School Regulations

This policy was updated at a meeting of the Board of Governors on 09.01.2016