

# Child Protection Policy

ENAIP (Ente Nazionale ACLI Istruzione Professionale) fully recognizes its responsibilities for child protection. Our policy applies to all staff, governors and volunteers within our organization. There are five main elements to our policy:

- Ensuring we practice safe recruitment in checking the suitability of staff and volunteers to work with children.
- Raising awareness of child protection issues and equipping children with the skills needed to keep them safe.
- Developing and then implementing procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases, of abuse.
- Supporting pupils who have been abused in accordance with his/her agreed child protection plan.
- Establishing a safe environment in which children can learn and develop.

Our staff have contact with children only on a weekly basis but will nevertheless endeavour to observe the outward signs of abuse. We shall therefore:

- Establish and maintain an environment where children feel secure, are encouraged to talk, and are listened to.

Ensure children know that there are adults whom they can approach if they are worried.

We will follow the procedures set out by the Area Child Protection Committee and take account of guidance issued by the Department for Education and Skills to:

- Ensure that our teachers receive training and support for child protection.
- Ensure we have a nominated governor responsible for child protection.
- Ensure all staff and volunteers understand their responsibilities in being alert to the signs of abuse and responsibility for referring any concerns to the designated teacher responsible for child protection.
- Ensure that parents have an understanding of the responsibility placed on the school and staff for child protection by setting out its obligations in the school prospectus.
- Notify social services if there is an unexplained absence of more than two days of a pupil who is on the child protection register.
- Develop effective links with relevant agencies and co-operate as required with their enquiries regarding child protection matters including attendance at case conferences.
- Keep written records of concerns about children, even where there is no need to refer the matter immediately.
- Ensure all records are kept securely, separate from the main pupil file, and in locked locations.
- Develop and then follow procedures where an allegation is made against a member of staff or volunteer.
- Ensure safe recruitment practices are always followed.

We recognize that children who are abused or witness violence may find it difficult to develop a sense of self worth.

Within the limits of the contact time of our staff with their pupils, we shall endeavor to support the pupil through:

- The content of the curriculum.
- The ethos which promotes a positive, supportive and secure environment and gives pupils a sense of being valued.
- The behaviour policy which is aimed at supporting vulnerable pupils in the school.
- Liaison with other agencies that support the pupil such as social services, Child and Adult Mental Health Service, education welfare service and educational psychology service.

All staff are issued with a copy of ENAIP's Child Protection Policy and it is their duty to make parents fully aware of it. As most centers only have one teacher it does not seem worth it to designate a teacher for Child Protection in the few centers withy more than one teacher. Any concern is therefore to be reported to the class teacher, who will then report to the nominated governor.

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