

Sheuchan School

Child Protection Policy



This policy was adopted by collective discussion/sharing
Sheuchan Staff
Leswalt High Road
Stranraer
On (date): 02/09/26

Signed _____ Designation _____

****Policy Emailed to all staff members and filed within the Policy folder****

Review Date:	By:	Amendments:

Statement of Purpose

This policy is designed to highlight the roles and responsibilities of all those working within Sheuchan Primary in relation to the care and protection of children. The setting will follow the vision for all children and young people in Dumfries and Galloway as per the attached policy so that they will be safe, nurtured, healthy, achieving, active, respected and kept safe from harm (European Convention on the Rights of the Child). Everyone has a part to play in this and in making sure that children get the help they need when they need it. Therefore the staff within Sheuchan Nursery have a key role in keeping children safe.

Responsibilities of Staff

- Everyone must know who the **Child Protection Coordinator (Ms. Whorlow)** and **Depute Coordinators (Mrs Fraser, Principal Teacher and Miss Douglas, Nursery Manager)** is in your own school setting.
- What child protection means, how to ensure we know our children & young people and that we notice and listen to them.
- How to respond if there is a concern about a child's care, wellbeing or safety or if a child makes a disclosure.

Staff Training

All staff will receive annual child protection training which will be provided by the local authority.

Monitoring of this policy

It will be the responsibility of The Head Teacher and Nursery Manager to ensure all staff, including new or temporary staff, are familiar with this policy and to monitor that it is being implemented. The policy will be updated as and when required.

Sheuchan Primary and Nursery Safeguarding, Child Protection and Wellbeing Policy

This policy applies to all staff and volunteers.

Within Sheuchan Primary and Nursery we aim to create an environment in which all children are safe and feel safe.

We aim to ensure there is a strong, robust, and proactive response from adults to reduce the risk of harm to children.

We aim to ensure that adults working with our children know and understand the indicators that may suggest that a child/young person is suffering or is at risk of suffering harm. **(Ref: *How good is our school 4th Edition*)**

We are fully committed to practice in a way that protects all children and fully adhere to the processes and procedures contained within Dumfries and Galloway's Child Protection Procedures and the National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2021.

This document recognises:

- Everyone in Sheuchan Primary & Nursery has a responsibility to protect children.
- Every child, always, has a right to feel safe and protected from any situation or practice which may result in harm.
- The welfare of children, in Sheuchan Primary & Nursery is the paramount consideration, and we must all work together to ensure they are protected.

The purpose of this policy is to show how we:

- Protect children and young people attending Sheuchan Primary & Nursery
- Provide staff, volunteers, children, parents, and carers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding and child protection.

We believe that:

- Children should never experience abuse of any kind.
- We all have a responsibility in Sheuchan Primary & Nursery to promote the welfare and wellbeing of all children to keep them safe and to practice in a way that protects them.

This policy should be read alongside our other policies and procedures including:

Health Care in Schools, Anti-bullying Guidance, Self-Harm & Suicidal Behaviours, Attendance at Schools, Managing School Exclusions etc.

In Sheuchan Primary & Nursery we recognise the following principles:

- The welfare of children is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions we take.
- Working in partnership with children, their parents, carers, and other agencies is essential in promoting children's welfare.
- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have an equal right to protection from all types of harm or abuse.
- Some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues.
- Extra safeguards may be needed to keep children who are additionally vulnerable safe from abuse.

We will seek to keep children safe in Sheuchan Primary & Nursery by:

- Valuing our children, listening to them, and respecting them ensuring each child has access to a named person they can trust and talk to.
- Appointing a Child Protection Co-ordinator for the school and a deputy who will be the single points of contact for safeguarding and child protection matters.
- Adopting the processes and procedures contained within Dumfries and Galloway's Education Child Protection Guidance & Multi-Agency Guidance.
- Building a safeguarding culture where staff, volunteers, children, and their families treat each other with respect and are confident and comfortable sharing their concerns.
- Embedding safeguarding and child protection into our policies and procedures.
- Developing and implementing an effective online safety policy and related procedures.
- Providing effective management for staff and volunteers through training, support, and quality assurance measures so that all staff and volunteers know about and follow our policies and procedures, and our code of conduct confidently and competently.
- Building the capacity of our staff or volunteers by supporting their professional learning in matters related to safeguarding.
- Recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made.
- Recording and storing information professionally and securely and ensuring our record keeping is maintained to a high standard.
- Using our procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agency's who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families, and carers appropriately.
- Sharing information about safeguarding and child protection and good practice with children and their families via leaflets, posters, websites etc to make sure children, and their families know where to go if they have a concern.
- Using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately and promptly.
- Creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring we have a policy and a procedure in place to help us deal effectively with any bullying behaviour that does arise.
- Ensuring we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place.
- Ensuring we have approaches to safeguarding and child protection as part of our self-evaluation activities.
- Ensuring we provide a safe physical environment for our children, young people, staff, and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance.

Contact details for the Child Protection Coordinators in Sheuchan Primary & Nursery

Child Protection Coordinator	
Name	Mandy Whorlow
Designation	Head Teacher
Email	Gw10whorlowmandy01@ea.dumgal.sch.uk

Depute Child Protection Coordinator	
Name	Claire Douglas
Designation	Nursery Manager
Email	gw18douglasclaire@ea.dumgal.sch.uk

Depute Child Protection Coordinator	
Name	Mildred Fraser
Designation	Principal Teacher
Email	gw08frasermildred@ea.dumgal.sch.uk

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

This policy was last reviewed on: 01/09/26

Signed: *M. Whorlow* (CPC for Sheuchan Primary and Nursery)

Further information to help protect children within Dumfries and Galloway:

Public Protection:

<https://www.dumfriesandgalloway.gov.uk/social-care-health/keeping-people-safe/child-protection>

Dumfries and Galloway Children's Services Partnership

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/dg/girfecdgresourcesforstaff/childrens-services-planning-in-dumfries-and-galloway/>

CAMHS - <https://dghscp.co.uk/camhs/>

NSPCC - <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>

Sheuchan Primary & Nursery



Safeguarding, Child Protection, Wellbeing and Prevent Policy

This policy applies to all staff and volunteers.

1. Introduction

At Sheuchan Primary and Nursery, we are committed to creating an environment in which all children are safe, feel safe, and are supported to flourish. Safeguarding and child protection are central to our practice across both the school and nursery.

Our approach is guided by:

- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) – particularly Articles 3, 12 and 19.
- Getting It Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) and the SHANARRI wellbeing indicators.
- National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2021.
- Education Scotland Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy (2024).
- Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.
- Prevent Duty Guidance for Scotland.

2. Policy Aims

We aim to ensure:

- A proactive safeguarding culture where all children's wellbeing is nurtured.
- A robust child protection response to reduce the risk of harm.
- A clear understanding among staff and volunteers of safeguarding, child protection, and Prevent responsibilities.
- Effective collaboration with children, families, and partner agencies.

3. Definitions

- Safeguarding: Promoting the wellbeing of children and protecting their rights, including ensuring a safe environment, supporting mental health, and preventing harm.
- Child Protection: Immediate action taken when a child may be at risk of significant harm.
- Prevent: Part of safeguarding that protects children from being drawn into extremism, radicalisation, or exploitation.

4. Principles

We believe:

- The welfare of children is paramount and overrides all other considerations.
- Every child has the right to be safe, protected, and respected.
- Children should be listened to, taken seriously, and involved in decisions that affect them.
- Staff and volunteers must be trained, supported, and confident in fulfilling safeguarding responsibilities.
- Partnership working with parents, carers, and multi-agency services is essential.

5. Our Commitments

We will:

- Value, respect, and listen to children, ensuring they know who they can speak to.
- Appoint a Designated Child Protection and Prevent Coordinator (DCPC) with trained deputies.
- Ensure all staff and volunteers are members of the PVG scheme and safely recruited.
- Provide annual safeguarding and child protection training for all staff and volunteers.
- Provide Prevent awareness training appropriate to role, with refreshers in line with Dumfries & Galloway

Council and national requirements.

- Embed safeguarding across the school and nursery curriculum and experiences, including age-appropriate learning about safety, relationships, respect, online safety and resilience.
- Identify and support children with additional vulnerabilities, recognising factors such as disability, previous trauma, or social disadvantage.
- Implement procedures to share concerns appropriately, following Dumfries & Galloway Child Protection Procedures.
- Maintain professional and secure records of safeguarding and child protection concerns.
- Respond promptly to allegations against staff or volunteers in line with local and national guidance.
- Promote a positive and inclusive school culture through our Respect for All policy, ensuring children are protected from bullying, prejudice-based behaviour, and discrimination.
- Integrate safeguarding into self-evaluation and school improvement planning.
- Review this policy annually or sooner if legislation or guidance changes.

6. Prevent Duty

As part of safeguarding, we recognise our duty under Prevent to safeguard children from radicalisation and extremist influences. At Sheuchan Primary and Nursery, this means:

- Promoting positive relationships, respect, and inclusion.
- Developing age-appropriate critical thinking and resilience in children through learning and play.
- Training staff to recognise signs of vulnerability to extremist narratives or exploitation.
- Referring concerns appropriately to the DCPC and relevant external agencies.

7. Roles and Responsibilities

- All staff and volunteers: Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. All must be alert to signs of harm, abuse, neglect, or radicalisation, and know how to respond.
- Child Protection and Prevent Coordinator (DCPC): The lead point of contact for safeguarding, child protection, and Prevent matters. Responsible for training, procedures, and liaison with agencies.
- Deputy Coordinators: Provide support and cover in the absence of the DCPC.
- Headteacher: Holds overall responsibility for the effectiveness of safeguarding across Sheuchan Primary and Nursery.

8. Contact Details

Designated Child Protection and Prevent Coordinator (DCPC):

Mandy Whorlow (Headteacher) – gw10whorlowmandy01@ea.dumgal.sch.uk

Deputy DCPCs:

- Mildred Fraser, Principal Teacher - gw08frasermildred@ea.dumgal.sch.uk
- Claire Douglas, Nursery Manager – gw18douglasclaire@ea.dumgal.sch.uk

9. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed annually, or sooner if new guidance requires.

Last reviewed: 19/08/2026

Signed: Mandy Whorlow, Child Protection and Prevent Coordinator

Further information to help protect children within Dumfries and Galloway:

Public Protection <https://www.dgppp.org.uk/article/18633/Child-Protection>

Dumfries and Galloway Children's Services Partnership

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/dg/dgchildrensservices/>

Sheuchan Primary & Nursery

Parental Information

Safeguarding, Child Protection, Wellbeing and Prevent-Summary for Parents & Carers

At Sheuchan Primary and Nursery, your child's safety and wellbeing are our top priority. This summary explains the key points of our Safeguarding, Child Protection, Wellbeing and Prevent Policy.

What safeguarding means

Safeguarding means making sure all children are safe, happy, included and able to reach their potential. It includes everything we do to support children's wellbeing and protect their rights.

What child protection means

Child protection is what we do straight away if we believe a child is at risk of serious harm. We follow national and local guidance to keep children safe.

Prevent

Prevent is part of safeguarding. It means protecting children from being drawn into harmful or extremist views. Across our school and nursery, we do this in an age-appropriate way by promoting respect, positive relationships, critical thinking and resilience.

Our commitments

- All staff and volunteers are trained in safeguarding and child protection.
- Staff also complete Prevent awareness training when required.
- All adults working across our school and nursery are safely recruited and members of the PVG scheme.
- Children know who they can speak to if they are worried.
- We follow our Respect for All policy to prevent and deal with bullying.
- We work closely with families and other agencies if extra help is needed.

Who to contact

If you have any worries about a child's safety or wellbeing, please contact:

Designated Child Protection and Prevent Coordinator (DCPC):

Mandy Whorlow (Headteacher) – gw10whorlowmandy01@ea.dumgal.sch.uk

Deputy DCPCs:

- Mildred Fraser, Principal Teacher - gw08frasermildred@ea.dumgal.sch.uk
- Claire Douglas, Nursery Manager – gw18douglasclaire@ea.dumgal.sch.uk

Review

We review our safeguarding policy regularly to make sure it reflects the latest guidance and best practice.