



BERWICKSHIRE HIGH SCHOOL

Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

May/2021

Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy May/2021 Child protection has to be seen in the context of the wider Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC) and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. GIRFEC promotes action to improve the wellbeing of all children and young people in eight areas. These wellbeing indicators state that young people must be: healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible, included and, above all in this context, safe. The primary indicator for child protection is to keep a child safe.

Scottish Government

Principles:

- The protection of students in the care of Berwickshire High School is of paramount importance in all that we do as a school.
- A Child Protection Officer (CPO) shall be identified clearly and this should be made clear to all staff in the school. CPO presently is Mrs Emma Dickson (Depute Rector).
- All staff shall receive training in Child Protection at regular intervals according to the recommendations of the SBC Child Protection Policy. Well maintained records of this training shall be kept by the CPO.

Procedure at Berwickshire High School:

Any concerns about a student's welfare must be immediately discussed with the Child Protection Officer - Mrs Emma Dickson (Depute Rector). In her absence, report concerns to Mrs Louise Kennedy (Head of Year S3/4/5) or Mr Bruce Robertson (Rector).

If a student makes a disclosure, the following must be adhered to:

1. Reassure the student that the school will support them
2. Do not promise to keep the information confidential; explain that details must be passed on
3. Listen, rather than ask direct questions. Do not ask any leading questions
4. Be calm and non-judgemental even if the information is serious and upsetting
5. Make brief and accurate notes
6. Act on the information immediately. Speak to Mrs Emma Dickson

Out of school hours

Not in school and concerned about a student in the Scottish Borders community?

Phone 01896 662787

Out of hours, phone 01896 752111