

**What you should do if you have concerns about a child:**

I have a concern about my or another child's safety what can I do ?

I can talk to the class teacher

If I am still concerned I can talk to the Designated Person for Child Protection—  
Mrs J McMinn

I can directly contact MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) on:  
0118 9373641

**What we, as a school, will do if we have concerns about a child in our care:**

In most situations we will discuss concerns with parents.

If concerns persist, or a serious allegation has been made, we will consult with at MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) Reading Borough Council which may lead to a referral to Children's Services.



**EP Collier Primary School  
Information For Parents  
On  
Child Protection**

**It is our policy always to act in the best interests of the children in our care. A major part of this will be to safeguard their welfare by endeavouring to protect them from neglect and physical, sexual and emotional harm.**



## Keeping our children safe from harm

Dear Parent/Carer,

In this leaflet we have summarised the main parts of our policy document on Child Protection to share with parents and carers the procedures which we work to ensure that the children of EP Collier are always safe, secure and happy. The welfare and development of your children is a key part of their current and future success. We constantly strive to create an atmosphere in which all children are valued and feel able to share their feelings and concerns.

We operate “an open door policy” at all times and any information shared with members of staff will be dealt with promptly, sensitively and confidentially.

Yours sincerely

Justine McMinn  
Head Teacher

### Principles of child protection:

- Children have a right to be listened to and to be taken seriously.
- In any matter the welfare of the child must always be paramount. This overrides all other considerations.
- A proper balance must be struck between protecting the child and respecting the rights and needs of parents and families; but where there is conflict the child's interests must always come first.

### Child Abuse Is Defined As Follows

**Neglect:** The failure of a parent or carer to protect the child from any kind of danger, including cold, lack of supervision and starvation.

**Physical Abuse:** The failure to prevent physical injury or causing actual physical injury to a child.

**Sexual Abuse:** Actual or likely sexual exploitation of a child.

**Emotional abuse:** Emotional rejection or ill treatment of a child.

### Code of Conduct for All Staff and volunteers Within the School

Staff must always be mindful that they hold a position of trust and that their behaviour towards the children in their care must be appropriate.

### Role of the Designated Teacher

- Listen to the child
- Refer the case to: Children's Services if required
- Support the child