



**CHILD PROTECTION**  
**Information for**  
**Parents**



The following information provides a brief summary of our child protection policy and procedures.

Southwick C.E. Primary School fully recognises its responsibilities for child protection and strives constantly to create an environment in which children are valued and feel safe and secure.

The school will 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 in the school who they can approach if they are worried;
- ◇ include opportunities throughout the curriculum, including ICT and PSHE, for children to develop the skills they need to recognise, and stay safe from abuse.

We believe that:

- ◇ the welfare of the children in our care is paramount and over-rides all other considerations;
- ◇ it is important to respect the rights and needs of parents and families however, if this conflicts with the child's interests, the child must come first.



We have a duty to report any signs of child abuse. Child abuse is defined as follows:

**Neglect**—The failure of parents/carers 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.

**If we have concerns about a child in our care we will:**

- ◇ discuss our concerns with parents/cares in most situations;
- ◇ liaise with other agencies as necessary;
- ◇ discuss ongoing, persistent concerns with a social worker and follow the advice given



**The school's Child Protection Policy can be read , in full, on the school website. If you cannot access this, we can provide you with a copy.**