

If you do not feel you can speak with the School directly, there are other options:

- Manchester Children's Services
0161 234 5001
mcsreply@manchester.gov.uk
- The Police 101
999 if the child is at immediate risk of harm
- NSPCC
0808 800 5000
Text 88858
Nspcc.org.uk
help@nspcc.org.uk

Types of abuse:

- Neglect
- Domestic Violence/abuse
- Emotional abuse
- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Online abuse
- Grooming
- Child exploitation
- Female genital mutilation

There is further information in our **Safeguarding Policy** on the school website

www.oldmoat.manchester.sch.uk



Safeguarding at Old Moat Primary School

What do I do if
I am concerned
about a child?

Information for Parents and Carers



Safeguarding at Old Moat

This leaflet gives some information about safeguarding at Old Moat.

(Further information can be found in our **Safeguarding Policy** on the school website)

The safety and wellbeing of our children is paramount and we will do all that we can to ensure that their time at Old Moat is as happy and healthy as possible.

Old Moat Primary School aims to create and maintain a safe learning environment where all children and adults feel safe, secure and valued and know they will be listened to and taken seriously. Our school is committed to the principles outlined in 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' and implements policies, practices and procedures which promote safeguarding and the emotional and physical wellbeing of children, young people and staff. We adhere to the 'Signs of Safety' strategy

The children have access to appropriate curriculum opportunities, including emotional health and well-being, to support the development of the skills needed to help them stay safe and healthy, develop their self-esteem and understand the responsibilities of adult life.

The school works closely with Manchester's Early Help Hub, Children's Services and further outside agencies to ensure that we provide our children and families with the appropriate support that they require to live safe and healthy lives.

We will always do what we believe to be in the best interest of the child to ensure their health and safety.

Who do I talk to?

All schools have a Safeguarding policy which tells people what to do if they think a child may be suffering abuse or neglect.

All the staff at Old Moat are trained in Safeguarding and Signs of Safety and learn the signs of abuse/neglect. The school has a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Designated Safeguarding Lead :

Mrs Jacky Teer



Deputy Designated Safeguarding Officers:

Mrs Kelly McNicholas (Inclusion Manager/SENDCo)

Mr Oliver Kerr – Headteacher

Mrs Victoria Collier – Deputy Headteacher

Mrs Julie Walsh – Family Support Worker

Mrs Isabelle Qamar (Governor for Safeguarding)

Concerns

If you are concerned about the welfare of a child who comes to Old Moat Primary School you have a duty to report those concerns and safeguard the child.

You can either speak to Jacky Teer (DSL) or contact Manchester Children's Services directly.

You are not expected to make any judgements on whether it is abuse or not.

It is the role of the DSL to decide if child abuse is a consideration or if the information received can be held on file.

Why do you keep concerns on file?

The DSL at school and the Deputy DSL's are trained under Manchester City Council to make judgements using a strict threshold criterion and if the concerns do not meet the threshold this could be the reason for keeping the concern on file.

Concerns can often be something small and do not warrant intervention from Children's Services, however, over a period, a collection of small concerns can build a worrying picture. It is when we receive a number of 'small concerns' that we may contact Children's Services for advice and to share information based on them.

Therefore, even the smallest concern can help the DSL to gain the information to build a picture that may warrant investigating by Child Protection Services

Early Help

We will aim to address these concerns via Manchester's Early Help Strategy to prevent the situation from escalating. If we believe that the concerns place a child at risk of immediate harm then a referral will be made to Children's Services.

What if I still have concerns about a child?

- Speak to the DSL about the concern;
- Ask the Headteacher to investigate the concern;
- Ask the Governor for Safeguarding to look at the concern;
- Contact Manchester Children's Services to report the concern to them directly.