

# St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

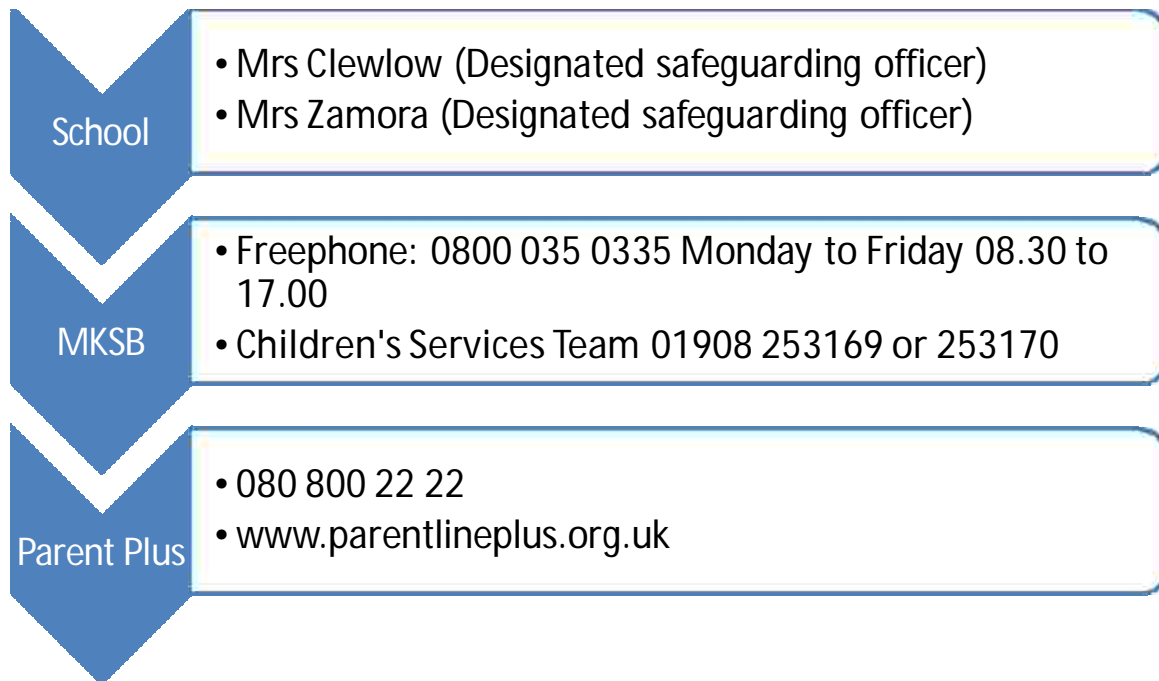
A Safeguarding Enquiry into the Safety and Welfare of a Child

## A Guide for Parents & Carers



Every child matters in St. Bernadette's

## Contact Information



### Every child matters in St. Bernadette's

If a child tells an adult something that we think shows that they could be being harmed it is our responsibility to pass this information on to Social Care. We would endeavour to contact you before we contact the Duty Team.

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Why are people concerned about the safety of my child and family?



The law states that Social Care MUST look into information given to them about the safety of a child.



The welfare of a child is the most important matter even when a parent or carer is upset. Children have a right to be looked after properly and kept from harm.



Professionals such as Teachers, Doctors and Health workers have the responsibility to contact Social Care if they are concerned about the safety of a child.

Can I be involved?

Yes

- It is important that you tell the Social Worker what you think and what you would like to happen.

You will be treated with respect

- You will be told of the concerns about your child.

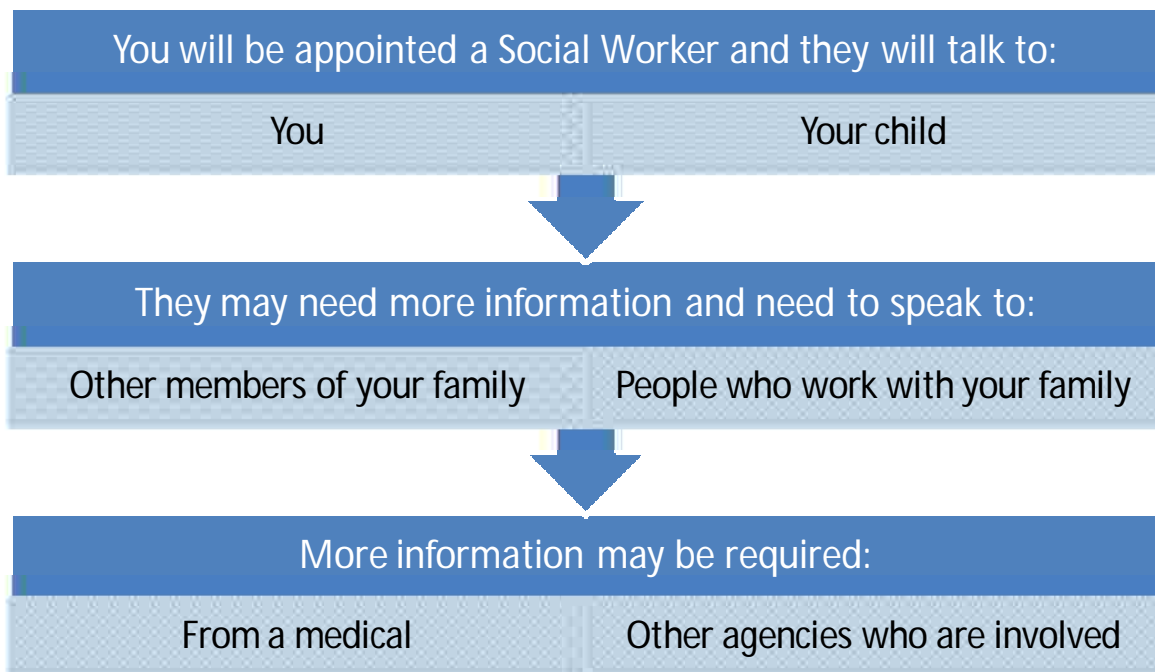
You will be told your rights

- Your opinions and views will be listened to.
- Information about you and your family will be kept confidential.

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What happens in an enquiry?



Will the Police be involved?

In some situations when the police need to decide if a criminal offence has been committed they will want to talk to you, and if old enough, your child.

- These police officers will be from the Public Protection Unit.

Remember that you should ALWAYS ask for identification.

- They will not wear uniform and are usually with a Social Worker.

What will happen after the enquires?

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- In many cases there is a simple explanation and a case is closed.

Every



- Sometimes a meeting is arranged to plan what support or action is needed to protect your child.

Child

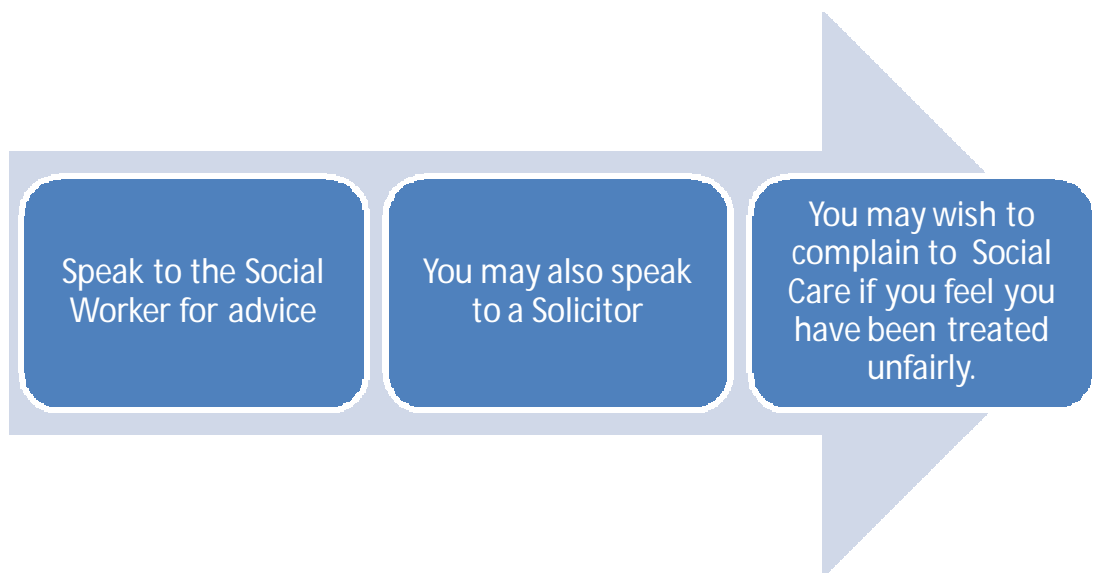


- The Social Worker may talk to you about what additional support can be offered.

Matters



What can I do if I am unhappy about the decision?



An enquiry into the safety of your child is upsetting stressful. To help with this, please try to keep the following in mind.

- Everyone involved wants to do the best for your child.
- It can be helpful to have someone you trust to talk to.