

# Les Voies



# <u>School</u>

# **Complaints Policy**

Type of Policy	School
Version Number	1.3
Date Completed	Dec 2020
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Signed by	
Links to other policies: Whistle	
blowing policy, ESC comments	
compliments and complaints policy,	
Behaviour and Attitudes Policy	
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### Why do we have a Complaints Policy?

- To ensure continuity in dealing with complaints.
- To ensure all stakeholders know how to complain.
- To ensure that stakeholders feel they have the right to complain and to be heard and that the process that is followed is transparent and fair.
- To ensure stakeholders know and understand their rights and responsibilities.

#### What do we want the Complaints policy to do?

- To inform stakeholders of how their complaint will be dealt with.
- To outline clear practices when dealing with complaints including how they are resolved.
- To establish a clear timeline and structure that any complaint would follow.
- To outline rights and responsibilities of all stakeholders.
- To promote the school's restorative culture.

#### Who are the stakeholders?

- Students
- Parents/Carers
- Staff
- The Committee for Education Sport and Culture (ESC)
- SLT
- Wider public
- Other agencies e.g. HSC, Convenor, CAMHS, EPS, SAS etc

#### How are complaints made?

- The school encourages and expects most issues to be dealt with informally. All such matters should be dealt with directly with the person concerned in an open and non-threatening way.
- Formal complaints should be made following the Complaints process outlined in the flow chart (see appendix).
- If there is a complaint that cannot be dealt with directly and needs to have intervention from senior staff then the forms can be found in the school office or on the school website.
- The form should be completed and either emailed or handed to the Headteacher who will then decide who is in the best position to deal with the complaint.
- If the complaint is about the Headteacher then this should be passed to the Director of Education.

#### How are complaints dealt with?

- All complaints will be taken seriously.
- All complaints will be investigated.
- Complaints should always be dealt with in a timely fashion as outlined in the flow chart.

# What is the timeline for complaints

- You can expect a response within 72 hours and the complaint to be dealt with within 10 days.
- If there is a significant investigation to be carried out or other factors that may impede the resolution of the complaint then this will be communicated to the complainant at the earliest opportunity.

# What are the rights and responsibilities of individual stakeholder groups?

- Every stakeholder or anyone associated with the school has the right to make a complaint, formal or informal.
- All stakeholders have a responsibility to follow the complaints process if they are unhappy about any elements of the school (this can be formal or informal).
- SLT are responsible to ensure timelines are followed.

# What can I expect from the complaints process

- If you make a complaint you will receive an acknowledgment of the complaint within 72 hours.
- You will receive a conclusion to any investigations and what has been done as a consequence of the complaint.

#### Flow Chart

