



## Helping home and school to work in partnership

### **AT OPOSSUM, WE BELIEVE THAT CHILDREN MAKE THE BEST PROGRESS WHEN HOME AND SCHOOL WORK TOGETHER.**

This agreement sets out the responsibilities of home and school in order to strengthen that relationship.

Children will be invited to sign the agreement only when they are mature enough to understand the commitment involved in signing a contract. All children are however made aware of the school's expectations and standards of behaviour which are based on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Having chosen the Opossum Federation, you have agreed to support its policies and procedures; we look forward to working in partnership with you.



## Safeguarding

### **SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN IN OUR SCHOOLS IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY**

**All the staff in our schools have a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. This duty is placed upon the school by Section 175 of the Education Act 2002.**

If we are concerned that a child may be at risk from significant harm (abuse) or is being abused, the school is required to refer their concerns onto social care and the police if necessary. In some, but rare, circumstances this may happen without the knowledge of parents/carers.

The school also has a responsibility to act upon other concerns that they may have about a child's welfare in circumstances where there are no suspicions of child abuse.

Examples of this may be when a child is demonstrating inappropriate behaviour, is involved in bullying, is failing to come

to school or where difficulties at home are having an effect on the child's well being. However, this list is by no means exhaustive.

At Opossum there is an expectation that school will discuss these issues with parents/carers wherever possible before deciding upon a course of action to support the child.

Our schools have a safeguarding policy which explains all the above in much more detail.

The policy is available on the school websites, accessible via:

[www.opossumed.org](http://www.opossumed.org)