

Dear Family,

As you know, we are using the *Second Step* program in your child's class. The *Second Step* program teaches children important skills for getting along with others and doing well in school. It also helps our school be a safe and supportive place where everyone can learn.

To help make our school even more safe and supportive, we are also going to use the *Second Step* Child Protection Unit. In this unit, your child will learn the following specific skills to help him or her stay safe from dangerous or abusive situations:

- How to use the **Ways to Stay Safe** to **recognize** when something is unsafe, **report** anything unsafe to an adult, and **refuse** to participate
- How to always ask a parent or the person in charge first before going somewhere, doing something, or accepting something from someone
- How to recognize safe, unsafe, and unwanted touches, and how to use the **Private Body Parts Rule** to identify possible sexual abuse
- How to refuse and report unsafe or unwanted touches and how to report possible sexual abuse to an adult

To keep your child safe and protected, everyone at school needs to be involved. So all our staff will get special training in how to:

- Recognize and report suspected child sexual abuse and other forms of maltreatment
- Respond to and support children who have been abused or who are facing other challenges
- Use strategies that promote a safe and supportive classroom

You also have an important role in helping your child stay safe! Home Links 1–5 in the Child Protection Unit have activities to help you and your child create a **family safety plan**.

If you have any questions about the Child Protection Unit or the *Second Step* program, please contact me. If you **do not** want your child to participate in the Child Protection Unit lessons, please complete, sign, and return the bottom portion of this letter. For more information on our school's child protection policies and procedures, check our school website or contact the school office.

Go to **SecondStep.org** and log in with the Activation Key **CPU4 FAMI LYG4** to get more information about what your child is learning in the Child Protection Unit. Thank you for helping us make our school a safe and supportive place where everyone can learn.