

Child Protection and the Safeguarding of Children Policy

The named Designated Safeguarding Lead Is:

Deputy Manager – Lisa Porter

The second named Safeguarding officers are:

Proprietor – Annie Silcock

Manager - Dawn Lloyd Jones

Teacher/Holiday club Manager – Heather Lincoln

All have completed and have achieved Advanced safeguarding qualifications

The policy is based on the following government acts:

Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act

Working Together to Safeguard Children government guidelines

Children's Act

Childcare Act

EYFS

Counter Terrorism and Security Act

and the **Safeguarding Children Partnership (SCP)** local authority organisation

The child protection and safeguarding policy and procedures are not stand alone and should be used alongside other relevant policies including:

- H&S policies and procedures
- Staff and Safe recruitment policies and procedures
- Visitors policy and procedures
- Whistleblowing policy and procedure
- Mobile phone/camera and recording devices policy and procedures
- Confidentiality policy
- Information and Social Networking – Acceptable use policy
- Behaviour policy and procedures

Designated Safeguarding Officers

The setting has named Safeguarding Officers, who co-ordinate Safeguarding Children issues within the setting. In the absence of the Lead Designated Officers absence, the second named person/s below will take responsibility for co-coordinating Safeguarding issues within the setting.

One of the above named officers **MUST** be on the nursery premises or be contactable at all times. In the event of an emergency or unplanned absence of the safeguarding officers, any person/staff member with a concern should seek guidance from the Emergency Duty team and the SCP.

The Lead Designated Person **MUST** have attended Safeguarding training to an advanced level. The Lead Designated person will be aware of the continuum of need procedure and how to initiate forming a TAF. The designated person is responsible for liaising with Local Statutory children's services as appropriate.

4.1.2

The Designated Person will contact where appropriate and take advice from the SCP regarding any safeguarding child protection concern. The Lead Designated person will contact the relevant LADO, I-ART or Emergency duty Team and Ofsted teams following the criteria of the Statutory Framework for the Early years foundation stage.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, is of paramount importance throughout the nursery setting. Safeguarding and child protection is the responsibility of all members of staff. It is the duty of the Safeguarding Co-ordinators, Manager /Deputy Manager to ensure that all staff are trained in safeguarding of children. All staff are given initial basic training in safeguarding during induction. There is planned on-going training in child protection and safeguarding for all members of staff whilst in the employment of the nursery.

The Working together to safeguard children act states that to safeguard children we must ensure that children are:

Protected from maltreatment

Prevented from impairment of health or development

We must also ensure Children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care and take action to enable all children to have the best outcome

As day care providers, we have a statutory duty of care. It is our responsibility to ensure that any safeguarding concerns or incidents or where children are suspected of being abused or harmed both within or outside the setting are reported to the relevant Local Safeguarding bodies and Ofsted following nursery procedures developed alongside government guidelines. Children may be abused by family members, friends, associates or complete strangers. This could be an adult or adults, another child or children.

The nursery ensures that:

The environment provided creates a safe location in which children can learn, develop, and feel secure.

It is the responsibility of the nursery to support children within our care. We have clear procedures in place for staff to adhere to in order to protect children.

The Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy is reinforced by and used in conjunction with other policies and procedures in the nursery.

Parents and staff are supported and educated on safeguarding issues

Effective measures to safeguard children are those that also promote their welfare and should not be seen in isolation from the wider range of support and services. The nursery follows the guidelines as described in the 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' government document where:

- There must be direct communication with children of sufficient age and ability so that their views are known and considered. This may involve the provision of independent support and advice.
- The child's wishes and feelings must underpin assessments and any safeguarding activities so far as is reasonably practical.
- Information sharing is fundamental to comprehensive assessment and the exercise of professional judgement (see confidentiality).

4.1.2

- Plans to safeguard and promote the welfare of children must involve the contributions of all relevant agencies, the family and the child where appropriate.
- All parties that plan to promote and safeguard the welfare of a child should be involved in the review of that plan where appropriate.
- Family members are key parties to plans to promote and safeguard the welfare of a child unless this is inconsistent with ensuring the child's safety.
- Children, families and carers must be provided with the information that enables them to fully exercise their rights and responsibilities.
- Plain, jargon-free language should be used appropriate to the age and understanding of each person.
- There should be open and honest discussion about concerns and professional responsibilities when working with children and families.

The nursery works with children, parent/carers, external agencies and the community to ensure the welfare and safety of children. It is the responsibility of the Safeguarding Officers/Manager to contact appropriate agencies with regard to any concern raised related to a child protection and safeguarding matter. The nursery will follow the procedure of the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy in the event of any concern being raised by a parent, child, member of staff, or any other person associated with the care of the child attending the setting. The nursery believes that all children have the right to be respected and kept safe from any form of abuse or radicalisation. As a day care provider we have a statutory duty of care.

The nursery will aim educate and inform parents of potential Information Technology risks for children in their care and how to protect them from it
Parents handbooks will be updated regularly with current Safeguarding information and amended accordingly to include new regulations and guidance

The aim of the nursery is to:

- Provide a safe and secure environment for all children.
- Provide an environment where children feel supported and able to discuss and disclose information.
- Provide an environment that supports children's development, physically, emotionally, intellectually and help develop a positive self-image.
- Treat the child's welfare as paramount.
- Know what the safeguarding procedures are within the setting.
- Ensure safe recruitment policies and procedures are followed.
- Know relevant sections of legislation governing services to children – The Children Act 1989, the Childcare Act and Working together to safeguard children .
- Know what services and expertise are available locally, and how to gain access to them.
- Be clear about the roles and responsibilities for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

4.1.2

- Know when and how to make a referral to the local safeguarding board Ofsted and the Police.
- Understand risk factors and the needs of parents/carers who may need extra help in bringing up their children, which may mean they pose a risk of harm to a child, and know where to refer for help.
- Be alert to potential indicators of abuse and neglect and radicalisation, which may include where children are not registered with a school or GP, miss health appointments or have unexplained absence from nursery.
- Be alert to the risks which individual abusers, or potential abusers, may pose to children.
- Be aware of the effects of abuse and neglect on children.
- Share and help to analyse information so that an informed assessment can be made of the child's needs and circumstances.
- Contribute as required to whatever actions are needed to safeguard the child and promote his or her welfare.
- Work in partnership with the parents/carers, unless this is inconsistent with the need to ensure the child's safety.
- Respond sensitively to the needs of children and their families from a range of racial, cultural, religious or linguistic backgrounds.
- Be committed to full co-operation with other agencies in the interests of safeguarding children and be clear which agency, team or professional has lead responsibility, and the precise roles of everyone else who is involved, including the way in which the children and other family members will be involved.

The nursery has a clear commitment to protecting children and promoting welfare. Should anyone believe that this policy is not being upheld or has a complaint or concern relating to child protection, it is their duty to report the matter to the attention of the Nursery Manager at the earliest opportunity.

The nursery ensures that all staff are aware of their responsibility to the children within their care. All Staff are trained in Child Protection and Safeguarding. Staff training is refreshed regularly to ensure staff knowledge is current and relevant. Staff are made aware that there are many forms of abuse and this can be presented in the form of physical, sexual, emotional abuse or neglect. Staff are made mindful that due to the environment of nursery and the length of time children spend within in the setting, that they as a member of staff, may be the person with whom the child chooses to confide should there be a child protection/safeguarding issue.

Practitioners have a duty to protect and promote the welfare of children. The Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy is supported by procedures that will be followed if we have any reason to believe that a child in our care is subject to any welfare issues including physical, sexual, emotional abuse or neglect.

It is the responsibility of the nursery to investigate and act upon any information received which relates to the welfare and protection of any child within our care. If any person connected to the nursery has reason to believe that a child requires child protection they are required to inform the child protection Safeguarding officer. It is the responsibility of the nursery to act quickly and

responsibly. If necessary the Child Protection and Safeguarding Procedure will be followed and appropriate agencies will be contacted. At all times the support and welfare of the children in our care will be regarded as paramount.

To support the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy the basic principles listed below are followed:

- The Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and Procedures are reviewed on a regular basis
- All staff are trained in child protection and safeguarding. Safeguarding training is on-going for all staff
- All staff are recruited through a rigorous safe recruitment policy and procedure including eligibility to work in the UK.
- The safeguarding officers attend recognised training certificates in child protection and safeguarding.
- Staff employed are trained and hold current and relevant Paediatric First Aid Certificates
- All staff are trained to recognise significant changes in children's behaviour, deterioration in children's general wellbeing, and recognise unexplained bruising, marks or signs of neglect.
- All staff are made aware of 'prevent duty' and procedures to follow should they have concerns.
- Parents/carers are informed through various forms of media of the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policies. Any updates are circulated promptly.
- Children are never knowingly or intentionally placed at risk whilst in the care of the nursery staff.
- Clear procedures are in place in the event of a child protection concern.
- Parents staff and children are made aware and educated on potential forms of ICT abuse
- The nursery follows a strict confidentiality code. Personal information on children, families and staff needs to be kept securely, whilst being easily accessible. In ensuring privacy and confidentiality, consideration **MUST** be given to the following:
 - Who needs to know the information?
 - When and where information is shared with parents/carers.

The nursery will always aim to inform parents/carers of any referrals before they are made. However, this may take place after the SCP have been informed and their advice followed with regard to informing parents/carers..

In the event of a Child protection case, the nursery commits to supporting the child, staff and any related individual. The support provided will be made in conjunction with advice from professional external agencies.

Contact telephone numbers

Integrated Access and Referral Team (I-ART)/ First Access Team: 0300 123 7047

Email : i-ART@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Emergency Out of Hours Telephone: 01244 977277

Contact for advice with initial concern regarding any child protection issue
Cheshire Police can also be contacted on **0845 458 0000 (999 in an emergency)**.

Safeguarding Children Partnership – (SCP)

Overall governing body for Child Protection and Safeguarding
Contact for advice regarding allegations against staff

Local Authority Designated Office – (LADO):

For information on allegations against a member of staff – [go to SCP website - professionals link and follow or complete website link on allegations procedure](#)
Named person for contact and advice regarding procedure for allegations against staff
Ofsted 0300 123 1231

Police 101 – for concerns of terrorism or radicalisation

Website information for Safeguarding Children Partnership (SCP):

www.cheshirewestlscb.org.uk

Taf advisors: Sheila Morris (Northwich & Winsford) Tel: 07500 921084

sheila.morris@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk Alyson Jones (Chester & Rural) Tel:

07919228417 Alyson.jones@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk Jayne Ford (Ellesmere Port & Neston) 07500974999 jayne.ford@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Document reviewed on	October 2019	Where this document is displayed / duplicated Handbooks x3 All notice boards x4 Policy files Unit Procedure files x4 Smartcare files and board
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