

Policy Statement on child protection

The Safety and well-being of children in our Pre-school is paramount. To give children the best possible start in life we work to the principles of safeguarding by being aware that children learn at their best when they are safe, secure, and healthy and have good relationships with caring adults. **(CULTURAL CAPITAL)**. It is our prime responsibility to work with parents and other agencies such as Coventry safeguarding children's partnership to provide a safe and secure environment for all.

Any suspicion of abuse is promptly and appropriately responded to by all practitioners and those who use our setting, parents, students, volunteers, professional workers. Safeguarding is everyone business.

**“The safety of young children is paramount.”
(Every Child Matters 2003 & The Childcare Act 2006)**

As a caring provider we will take action to protect and prevent children from significant harm and maltreatment. We work in a child centred way to consider the rights of the children. We will ensure that we promote the fundamental ‘British Values’ of DEMOCRACY, THE RULE OF LAW, INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY AND MUTUAL RESPECT AND TOLERANCE FOR THOSE WITH DIFFERENT FAITHS AND BELIEFS (The Prevent Duty guidance) (2015)

Practitioners are in a prime position to identify any changes to a child's safety and well-being. What is life like for a child the threshold criteria of early help assessment (right help, right time).

If a member of staff identifies any form of abuse they will record the significant information as accurate as possible, time, date, child's name, nature of the concern, a record of what the child has said as well as the practitioner's response.

The information will be shared without delay to Mary Pickering who is the lead practitioner for Safeguarding. Conversations with parents will normally be the first point of contact and will be recorded and signed. In some cases the safety and well-being of the child overrides confidentiality, if there is a suspected case of significant harm to the child. The information will then be shared with other agencies prior to informing the parents. In this instance where the parent is the likely abuser the investigating officer will inform the parents. The child will continue to be monitored by the practitioner and the designated person in the Pre-school. (Mary Pickering).

The role of the lead practitioner or designated person Mary Pickering is to respond appropriately to all incidents or concerns of abuse or domestic Violence and to provide support and guidance to staff members as well as work with the statutory agencies **(COVENTRY SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN'S PARTNERSHIP (CSCP))** this is in accordance with the procedures of 'What to do if you are worried a child is being abused' booklet guidance and 'The Working together to Safeguard Children Document.' (2018) and The Prevent Duty guidance (2015).

To demonstrate compliance with the 'Prevent Duty guidance (2015) and section 26 of the counter terrorism and security Act (2015) we will:

Protect children from risk of Radicalisation by:

- Identifying children who may be vulnerable to Radicalisation whether within their families or from outside influences.
- Build resilience to Radicalisation by promoting 'British Values' and to challenge extremist views.
- Have effective engagements with parents in the setting.
- Identify any changes in children's and adults behaviour.

If a practitioner has a concern about a child or family in the setting. They will notify the safeguarding lead practitioner Mary Pickering who will fulfil the duty of our safeguarding procedures by contacting:

COVENTRY SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN'S PARTNERSHIP.

SOCIAL CARE.

POLICE 101 (NON EMERGENCY NUMBER) SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. HELPLINE 020 7340 7264 9

(CHANNEL PANEL) multi agency forum/group OR EMAIL

counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk

OFSTED.

All relevant safeguarding contact numbers are as follows:-

COVENTRY SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN'S

PARTNERSHIP contact number is 024 76 833 443

(child protection unit) and emergency duty team

(helpline) 024 76 832 222

Ofsted registering Body 0300 123 1231

Social Care 024 76 788555 Multi agency safeguarding hub (M.A.S.H).

- In order to fully support staff in the Pre-school we arrange training opportunities such as inset training as well as online and through the safeguarding board for **all** adults in the group to ensure that they recognise the symptoms of possible physical abuse, neglect, emotional abuse and sexual abuse.
- We ensure that children are never placed at risk while in the charge of pre-school staff. We will complete a robust vetting procedure on all those who work in the setting by completing an Enhanced DBS and obtaining two recent character references one from a previous employer. All staff sign a disqualification declaration form on an annual basis and during supervision meetings any convictions, cautions, reprimands are discussed. Constant supervision and correct ratios are maintained both indoors and outdoors.

- Confidentiality is upheld at all times by sharing information only with those who need to know. Our Privacy Notice complies with the general Data Protection Regulations GDPR (2018).
- Children will be listened to, **(the voice of the child)** reassured and helped to understand that they themselves are valued and respected and have not been at fault.
- A confidential record will include the child's name, address, and age. Timed and dated observations describing objectively the child's behaviour/appearance without comment or interpretation, signed and dated by the recorder.
- Safeguarding and welfare requirements with regard to Mobile phones, cameras and other electronic devices form part of this policy (policy statement on use of mobile phones and cameras).

The designated lead practitioner for Safeguarding is Mary Pickering who is available at all times in the setting to discuss any worries or concerns. Training will be accessed at least every two years. This training will keep other practitioners informed of any changes to policy and procedures and will be cascaded through staff meetings and briefings to give on-going advice and guidance on specific safeguarding issues. Briefings will be held to ensure all staff have knowledge to identify and to respond to abuse in an appropriate way. This is through briefings and display of information. Sue Purcell – Preschool Deputy is the second named safeguarding lead practitioner for the Preschool.

ALL STAFF WORK IN A PROACTIVE WAY TO CHALLENGE DISCRIMINATION.