

# Child Protection & Safeguarding Children

## Statutory framework

A Unique Child

3.1 Inclusive Practice

3.2 Keeping safe

Positive Relationships

3.27 Parents as partners

Enabling Environments

3.20 Supporting every child

Learning and Development  
development

1.0 The Learning Environment

1.3 Personal, social and emotional

## Safeguarding procedure:

- Every child has the right to be protected
- It is everyone's responsibility to protect children

## Child Protection / Safeguarding Children

It is the responsibility of all staff employed by Footsteps Day Nursery & Pre-School to apply the Safeguarding Partnerships. BSCB (in bucks) is a statutory body charged with ensuring the effectiveness of local arrangements and services to safeguard children. We work online with the working together to safeguard children act March 2015.

This involves recognising, recording and reporting signs of child abuse and/or neglect. If we come across any sign of FGM (female genital mutilation) we will report through First Response (bucks). We are aware of peer on peer abuse and recognise potential for safeguarding issues and will record within our safeguarding policy.

Details of any child arriving at the nursery with an injury must be recorded in the Incident Book by the parents. If the child's carer is not satisfied with the explanation as to how the injury occurred the parent will be informed that the matter will be taken further. In some cases, if a child is at immediate/further risk of harm parents would not be the first point of contact.

If a member of staff is concerned regarding the possible abuse of a child all relevant information will be recorded. This should include:

- Date, time and place
- Physical signs such as bruising
- Verbal disclosures and comments made by the child
- Uncharacteristic changes in the child
- Inappropriate sexualised conduct of sexual knowledge for the child's age and understanding
- Emotional effects, such as loss of concentration
- Comments made by the parent/guardian after discussions of the concerns

If a child requires urgent medical attention arrangements will be made to take the child to hospital in line with our 'Accident Policy'. A member of staff who suspects a child is being abused can go to a designated officer in the nursery or contact First response themselves.



The manager....., is the Designated Person for Safeguarding children. In addition to ..... and .....

All staff have regular training. Staff are booked on to safeguarding courses as part of their induction with refreshers annually and all staff complete training every 3 years or as required. Designated officers update their certificates every 2 years in line with requirements. If a member of staff becomes concerned for a child outside of normal office hours they should contact First Response.

Allegations involving staff:

- A parent or a child makes a complaint against a member of staff the designated officer must be informed.
- Any member of staff who has reason to suspect a child may have been abused by another member of staff either at nursery or elsewhere must immediately inform the designated officer.
- A record of the concerns must be made on a staff allegation form including a note of anyone who witnessed the allegation.
- Designated Officer will notify the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) within 24 hours and follow any advice given.
- We will also notify Ofsted on: 0300 1231231 asap but within 14 days.
- If the allegation constitutes a serious criminal offence, it will be necessary to contact the Child Protection and Sexual Crime Unit before informing the member of staff.
- Following advice from LADO we will carry out an investigation. It may be necessary to suspend the staff member but where possible give them other duties.

### Contact Numbers:

**First Response:** 01296 383962

**First Response out of hours:** 0800 9997677

**Local Authority Designated Officer:** 01296 382070

**Ofsted:** 0300 1231231

**Child Protection and Sexual crime unit (police):** 01628 816935

If we are concerned about the suitability of any staff member, to work with children. Or a member of staff resigns during allegations of child protection we will make a referral to the Disclosure and Barring service (DBS): 01325 953795.

### Prevent

We are alert and aware of any child's change in behaviour with regard to radicalisation and to challenge any extremist views. We have regard for the PREVENT duty guidance for England and Wales 2015. A copy is available in the nursery for reference. Staff are supported to try and identify children at risk of being drawn in to terrorism. We work to our British values and operate these throughout our nursery, a democracy, individual liberty, rule of law and mutual respect and tolerance.

Should we be concerned about a child we will follow out safeguarding procedures and contact First Response.

### **Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)**

We will follow the procedures for dealing with cases of FGM as set by Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Board. We will always seek advice before making a referral to Children's Social Care, however in cases where the removal of a child from this country for FGM is imminent we will contact the Police directly. From a Child Protection perspective, a child for whom FGM is planned is at risk of significant harm through physical and emotional abuse, it may also be considered as sexual abuse.

Typical identifiers / triggers are:

- Family comes from a community known to practice FGM
- Family / child talks about a long holiday
- Family / child may have asked to be excused PE / swimming on return
- Family / child may confide that she is going to a 'special ceremony' when on holiday
- Female child is known to have a mother that has been subject to FGM
- Female child is known to have a sister that has already undergone FGM
- Family are socially isolated or less well integrated into UK society
- Family withdraws female child from PSHE / SRE – to keep child less informed about their body.

### **Bullying**

Bullying is a specific form of abuse which may be prevalent in early year setting and is defined as deliberately hurtful behaviour, usually repeated over a period of time where it is difficult for the victims to defend themselves; this may also be seen as child on child abuse as noted above. The extent of bullying can include emotional and / or physical harm to such a degree that it constitutes significant harm, as set out in the definitions above, due to the extent to which it affects the health or development of the child subject to the bullying behaviour.

### **Whistleblowing Policy**

If any staff member has concerns with regard to another staff member with regard to their conduct at work or anything they feel inappropriate they can come confidentially to their head of room or the manager with regard to any issues. Should they have concerns with regard to the manager they can speak to .....or .....

All concerns are strictly confidential to other members of the team and will be protected to the best of our ability to do so.

Any concern can also be reported to LADO or OFSTED should they wish to instead.