

Safeguarding Children Policy

In Accordance with the reformed EYFS (2012), Swallows Nest Preschool will have regard to the government's statutory guidance 'Working together to Safeguard Children'. If our staff have concerns about children's safety or welfare the setting will notify agencies with statutory responsibilities without delay. This means the local children's social care services and in emergencies, the police.

Swallows Nest Preschool fully recognises that it has a shared responsibility for safeguarding children.

This policy applies to all staff, management and volunteers working within the setting.

- The welfare of the children attending this setting is paramount and concerns about child abuse will be taken seriously. This policy therefore compliments and supports a range of other policies including ICT, Medications, Whistle-Blowing
- Recruitment procedures will ensure the suitability of staff and volunteers working with children and will follow EYFS safeguarding and welfare requirements with regard to Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks.
- Where there is a delay in obtaining the DBS, staff will not have unsupervised contact with children being cared for.
- All staff are expected to disclose any convictions, cautions, court orders, reprimands and warnings which may affect their suitability to work with children whether before or during their employment at the setting. There is a process in place that provides staff with opportunities to share such information.
- All staff are trained in the setting's safeguarding policy and procedures within the first week of employment and will be required to attend safeguarding training regularly. Training will be refreshed every 3 years
- Procedures are implemented for identifying, recording and reporting concerns.
- The setting provides a safe environment in which children feel valued, can learn and develop, feel secure and are encouraged to talk and be listened to.
- We work within the guidelines set out by the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children's Board which are underpinned by the statutory document 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' (refer to procedure)
- A practitioner has been designated to take lead responsibility for safeguarding and liaising with local statutory children's services and with the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children's Board.
- The designated lead practitioner is Vanessa Harrison; support will be given by the Church Safeguarding Officer.
- The lead practitioner will provide support, advice and guidance to any other staff on an on-going basis and on any specific safeguarding issues as required.
- The designated lead practitioner has accessed a level 2 taught course in safeguarding and will refresh this every 3 years
- The use of mobile phones and cameras in the setting is covered in our safeguarding procedure (see procedure)
- The setting has a clear procedure that will be implemented when an allegation has been made against a member of staff (see procedure). The settings disciplinary procedure will inform any action in the event of an allegation (see disciplinary procedure)

